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# THE REGISTER

OF

# Ralph of Shrewsbury,

## Bishop of Bath and Wells,

1329–1363.

FROM THE ORIGINAL IN THE REGISTRY AT WELLS.

EDITED BY

THOMAS SCOTT HOLMES, M.A.,
*Vicar of Wookey and Prebendary of Wells.*

I.

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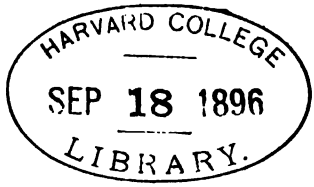


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| | £262 | 11 | 10 |

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*Wells, 13th June,* 1896.

# Somerset Record Society.

## REPORT.

THE Council of the Somerset Record Society regrets to be obliged to report that the number of subscribers is slowly decreasing, while the yearly expenses are somewhat on the increase. The cost of the transcription of a document, with the cost of printing, exceeds the income from subscriptions. All the other work necessary to further the objects of the Society is performed gratuitously. Unless, therefore, residents in the County of Somerset, and others interested in the history of Somerset, come to the assistance of the Society and help to enlarge the subscription list, the work that remains to be done must be considerably curtailed and delayed. The financial statement included in this volume shows clearly the exact position of the Society. The present list of subscribers is larger than usual, owing to many having put down their names for the present volumes only. When we consider what a large amount of valuable historical matter concerning Somerset remains still in MS., and almost unknown, it is to be hoped that further assistance may be forthcoming, and that present members will interest themselves in gaining the names of additional subscribers.

The volume for next year, a volume of early and very important Assize Rolls, assorted and edited by Mr. C. E. H. Chadwick-Healey, Q.C., has already and at great cost been transcribed, and it is hoped that it may appear at an early date next year. For the future Mr. Green has very kindly promised to give us another volume in continuation of Pedes Finium, and the Council has a transcript of a Muchelney Cartulary that has never as yet been printed or examined by historical students. The Secretary will be glad to give any information desired concerning the work of the Society and will endeavour to obtain back volumes for those desiring to complete their sets.

T. S. HOLMES.

WOOKEY VICARAGE,
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# Introduction.

THE great volume in the Registry at Wells which is known as the Register of Bishop Ralph de Salopia, contains a mass of documents which are not all inserted in chronological order and some indeed are very carelessly recorded. On examination also it is found that the register is not perfect. It ends with a document dated March 8, 1354, *i.e.*, ten years before the bishop's death. At the end of Bishop Drokensford's Register, and bound up with it, are several folios, 286–299, which form part of the Register of Bishop Ralph from 1361 to 1363, and these are referred to in the following notes under a repetition of the numeration with an asterisk attached. My instruction to the transcriber, Mr. Boyd, of whose ability and faithful work I am fully convinced, were that he should enter all ordinary documents in an English abstract, but whenever anything of importance occurred, and of this I was the judge, he should transcribe the exact words without additions or corrections of any kind. It will therefore be found that there is very great variation in spelling not only in place and personal names but also in ordinary Latin words. In some cases important words necessary for the sense are left out, and I have not ventured to supply them.

Perhaps if the funds of the Society had allowed a second revise of the proof, I would have wiped off many obvious errors which I have now corrected in the notes. I must, however, ask my readers to refer to these notes, where I have entered all mere misprints and in some cases suggested additional words to make the passage intelligible. In the earlier portion of the register I have obtained most valuable help from the *Calendars of Patent Rolls* issued by order of the Master of the Rolls, and under the able superintendence of the Deputy-keeper. I have referred to these under the year and page of the volume containing that year, since this system seems now preferable to the older method of date, part and membrane. The assistance of these, however, ends at present in 1338, and the *Calendars of Papal Letters* which I have also used continuously ends in 1343. The edition of Rymer's *Fœdera* which

I have used is that of 1707, the copy in the Cathedral library. The dates of the documents will enable them to be found in the Record Office edition. The Chapter documents I have referred to as Wells MSS., and have given the pagination of the late Mr. Bennett's *Calendar*, made for the Historical Manuscripts Commission. Bishop Hobhouse's edition of *Drokensford's Register*, and Mr. Hunt's *Two Chartularies of Bath Priory*, I have constantly referred to and have found invaluable, and I must also express my gratitude, which increases the more his work is read, to Collinson. It is possible with our fuller knowledge of the history of the county to improve on his great work, but the immense labour he devoted to the task demands our gratitude and admiration.

The thanks of the Society are also due, now to be recorded in piam memoriam, to the late Bishop Lord A. C. Hervey for the readiness with which he commended our endeavours to obtain the loan of this MS., and the interest he took in the work, and also to the courteous and obliging Registrary, Mr. R. Harris, who readily acceded to my request, and himself took his valuable treasure to the Record Office, and left it in Mr. Maxwell Lyte's hands for transcription. May this be an omen of future favours when the state of our funds shall allow us to contemplate a further issue of episcopal registers!

In conclusion I must confess that my work falls far short of my ideal or even of what I had hoped to accomplish. It has been done in the midst of incessant parochial and lecture work, and for the most part while the anxiety concerning the issue of the Bruton volume weighed me down. Certainly it suffers from my inability to consult many desirable works of reference. That it is not worse, I have to thank the Right Reverends Bishops Hobhouse and Brownlow, Canon Church, Prebendary Hingeston-Randolph, Dr. Fowler of Durham, and the Rev. F. W. Weaver and E. H. Bates. Their help has always been readily given, and has been of the greatest value. The Index was compiled by Miss C. Barnard with my help and under my guidance.

# Life of Bishop Ralph de Salopia.

JOHN DE DROKENSFORD, bishop of Bath and Wells died at Dogmersfield on Tuesday, May 9, 1329,[1] and on May 11 the Dean and Chapter of Wells wrote to the Prior and Convent of Bath to inform them of the loss to the diocese, and to arrange for a conference in reference to the election of a successor. They also appointed[2] Canons Robert de Haselschawe and John de Orleton to meet representatives of the Bath chapter at Faringdon on the Saturday after the feast of SS. Nereus, Achileus and Pancras (May 12), to arrange the proceedings for an election in the Chapter House in Wells. William de Hampton and Thomas Crist were in consequence appointed delegates from the Convent at Bath, and the arrangements of their proctors were subsequently ratified by the two chapters. On the Monday after the feast of S. Augustine (May 28), a joint note was forwarded to the archdeacon of Taunton to inform him of the proposed election, and on June 2, full power was given by both chapters to Thomas de Retford, Chancellor; Richard de Thistleden, Treasurer; Robert de Haselschawe, Canon and Warden; Ralph de Salopia, S.P. Prof., Chancellor of Oxford and Canon of Wells; and Lawrence de la Barre, Canon of Wells; and Robert de Sutton, William de Badmyngton, William de Hampton, Thomas Crist, and William de Haukesbury, monks of Bath, to proceed to an election from among themselves or the college of their churches. Meanwhile Robert de Haselschawe and John de Orleton were appointed to apply for the license to elect, and this was granted by the Crown on May 23.[3] On June 2, being the Friday after Ascension Day, the conference was held at Wells, and the choice of Ralph de Salopia was attested by Walter de Hulle, Stephen Trippe, Thomas de Berton, and Philip Tausor. This choice was duly noted by the delegates to Richard de Thistleden, Treasurer of Wells, and to the Chapter of Wells

[1] Hunt's *Bath Chartularies, Lincoln's Inn MSS.*, No. 323 [2] *Wells Cath. MSS.*, p. 97.
[3] *Patent Roll*, 3 E. III, p. 402.

generally, and the formal election occurred shortly after. On June 5 a joint letter was sent to Simon Mepeham, Archbishop of Canterbury, declaring the result of the election, and on June 28, the Royal Assent was given and forwarded to the archbishop. Then on July 21, the election was confirmed by the archbishop, and the next day the temporalities were restored,[1] and on September 3, being the Sunday after the feast of S. Giles, Ralph of Shrewsbury was consecrated bishop of Bath and Wells.

It is evident, from his name, that the new bishop, although not a stranger to the diocese, was not a native of the county. His early history is, however, very obscure and not a little complicated. He is referred to in the Bath Cartulary as civis Bathoniæ,[2] and afterwards for two years as a professed monk of the abbey. The canon of Wells[3] asserts that he received from the King a prebend in Salisbury Cathedral church on June 20, 1297. Such a date, if it is correct, would suggest that Bishop Ralph was a middle-aged man at the time of his consecration in 1329, and there is much in his register to warrant us in believing that he lived to be a very old man. His frequent excuses on the ground of ill-health for his absence from Parliament, and the general license he finally obtained[4] to remain away for the rest of his life seem to point to this conclusion, and therefore, seem indirectly to corroborate the statement of the Canon of Wells. On the other hand, in 1317, he obtained a papal provision for a canonry with a reservation of a prebend in Wells[5] notwithstanding that he held the rectory of Edgmond near Newport in Shropshire, in the diocese of Coventry, which was of the value of £12, and no mention is made of this prebend in Salisbury Cathedral. If he ever held this stall it is difficult to explain the omission of all reference to it.

In the *Calendar of Papal Registers*, there are four men mentioned, who held the surname de Salopia: Ralph, the earliest, who obtains this prebend at Wells in 1317; Walter, a King's clerk, who gains a prebend at S. David's in 1328; and John and Richard de Salopia, clerks of Queen Joanna of Scotland, who gain provisions for benefices in 1330. It is, however, impossible to say that Ralph was in any way connected with these three.

On page 519 will be found documents relating to the foundation which Bishop Ralph made in the conventual church at Shrewsbury for masses to be offered pro bono statu, and a Stephen de Salopia, rector of

[1] *Patent Roll*, 3 E. III, p. 391. [2] *Lincoln's Inn MSS.*, No. 808. [3] *Ang. Sac.* I., 568 note h. [4] *Cf.* p. 773. [5] *Cal. Papal Letters*, Vol. II, p. 165, 1 John XXII.

Oldbury, is mentioned as an attorney in reference to the transference of the land which formed the endowment, and at the very beginning of his episcopate he announces the offer of indulgences for those who should pray for the souls of John, son of Robert de Herierd, his wife and children, and also of William de Perton and Joan his wife, of the diocese of Lichfield and Coventry. Incidents such as these all point in one direction. Shropshire was Bishop Ralph's native county; it was the district in which the Mortimers were most powerful, and perhaps some of these had been instrumental in bringing Ralph to the notice of the rising adventurer. More than this we cannot say.

His election to the episcopate, though apparently very regular and unaccompanied by any delays, was not unchallenged. On June 12, Edward III wrote to the Pope requesting that his clerk, Robert de Wyvil, canon of Lichfield,[1] should be appointed to the vacant see, and this action of the King explains the difficulties which Ralph met with at the papal curia. To insure his success Edward III wrote also at the same time to some of the Roman cardinals to promote his application, and on August 2 he wrote from Wallingford another letter propriâ manu, and so did Queen Isabella his mother, to the pope and to these cardinals,[2] to further Wyvil's promotion. This was after he had granted the restitution of the temporalities, and can only be explained by the growing jealousy on the part of Edward at the influence which his mother and the Earl of March were exerting, and by the general weakness of the government just before the resolute action at Nottingham. Whether Edward was really anxious to promote Wyvil or not his letters foreboded no good to Ralph. To the King's request John XXII replied that he had already provided Wyvil with the See of Salisbury. The provision is dated xvi Kal. May, 1329, *i.e.*, some three weeks before the death of Drokensford. The result of this action, however, of the crown made it difficult for Bishop Ralph to persuade the pope that his election and consecration were formal and with the consent of the King, and it is clear that Ralph anticipated such difficulty from the letter he wrote on September 16 (No. 4) to a trusted theologian who was probably at the Roman court. The business of explaining his conduct he entrusted to Roger Brickebey or Brik as he is sometimes called. In the general letter which he sent to seven cardinals (8) he seems to fear the opposition which emanated from England, and assured the cardinals that all had been rightly and duly performed in the matter of his election. On September 27 he induces the Provincial Prior of the

[1] Rymer, *Fœd.*, vi, 391. [2] *Ibid.*, 397.

Order of Preachers, Simon de Borastona (10) who was staying with him at Dogmersfield, to write on his behalf to the pope. The prior in his letter refers to his Oxford work "in tribus honorifice rexit scienciis," and to his position there "Cancellarii officium magnifice tenuit." It is probable that Ralph, who was a doctor of canon law, was the chancellor elected by the communitas scholarium in 1327, but his name does not occur in *Hearne's Antiquities* nor in the *Annales Paulini*. In October, 1329, however, Ralph calls himself Chancellor of Oxford, and writes to his vice-chancellor as being still in office. About the same time the Prior of Bath writes to the pope in his favour. He says, "he is learned, grave, of good report, steadfast in adversity; no one could be more fit for the office or a higher one.[1] On October 10, he wrote to the Earl of March and entreated him to write to the pope on his behalf (25), and about the same time Ralph wrote himself to the pope (33) stating plainly the order and regularity of his election and consecration. On the 26th of the same month he wrote also to the archbishop begging him (39) to write to the pope and disabuse his mind of the idea which certain people had propagated that he had been confirmed in his election and consecrated against the will of the King, and he wrote again to the pope (40) to say, in proof of the regularity of the proceedings, that the King had personally admitted him at the parliament at Windsor[2] to the temporalities of the see, and he urges (41) the same proof on the Cardinal bishop of La Sabina. Again, on December 17, he reminds (76) the archbishop of his great need of help, and in January, 1330, Henry, Earl of Lancaster, wrote (112) to inform the pope that the election of Ralph had been pleasing to the King, and that the King had delivered the temporalities to him "as to an excellent man." Again on February 4, he had written to the pope (124) assuring him that he was entirely ignorant of the fact that provision had been made for the See of Bath and Wells on a vacancy occurring, and certainly there is no evidence among our present documents to support this idea that the pope had given the prospective vacancy to another. Next follows the bribe on February 8, 1330. Ralph wrote from Dogmersfield (121) to the pope, and offers him 2,000 florins of Florence, and explains that the ruinous state in which the episcopal manors were left by his predecessor prevents him from offering him more, and at the same time he wrote to eleven cardinals and also to Cardinal Peter de Mortimer thanking him for his especial assistance in defending him, and also sends his thanks for the same cause to Robert of Worcester, John Lutterel and Edmund of Caermarthen.

[1] Hunt's *Bath Lincoln's Inn MSS.*, 696. [2] The king was at Windsor, July 29.

On February 28 he writes in a most humble manner (134) to the pope assuring him of the pain he endures at this cloud under which he suffers, and he begs him to listen favourably to his appeal "Exaudi domine justiciam meam intende deprecationem meam." No one in England is readier to carry out the papal decrees. Again on March 6, he writes (143) to the pope against "canes mei," who persist in calumniating him, and at the same time forwards an exceedingly complimentary testimonial from the Chancellor and University of Oxford and another from the "prior and convent of the Order of Friar Preachers." The prior refers to him as "vitâ semper et moribus approbatus, devotus Deo et pacificus in convictu," and the chancellor calls him "dudum cancellarius noster, sacræ paginæ professor et doctor decretorum et magister in artibus." At the same time he writes also to the Cardinal SS. John and Paul. On March 20 he wrote once more to the pope from Winchester, and on the 24th from Dogmersfield and also on the 20th, as above, he wrote to the Cardinal Matthew of SS. Peter and Paul to say that he had been that day in the presence of the King and Queen in parliament (161), and that they had shown themselves towards him "benevolos et benignos." The University of Oxford again at the same time wrote to the pope on Ralph's behalf, assuring him that Ralph knew nothing of the supposed reservation of benefices by the papal curia, nor was such a reservation known by the University itself, "quod quecunque reservacio sic suggesta apud nos in universitate predicta nullatenus erat scita."

Another month was however to pass before the anxious bishop could feel secure. On May 5 he wrote again to the pope against the evil report that his enemies persisted in spreading (183), "preces ut audeo fundo devotissimus," and again the same day he writes to a Roman cardinal, and begs him to give credence to what his faithful clerk, R. de B., shall more fully explain (184). At last on May 30, 1330, his appointment was confirmed by Pope John XXII, and the anxious curia waited probably with impatience for some solid proof of the bishop's gratitude. We can read between the letters that follow, and his subsequent poverty shows how his resources were taxed. On July 11, he wrote from London to Raymond de Farges, of Sancta Maria Nova, and to other cardinals (211), thanking them for preserving his state, and on July 14 (209), he wrote from Barnes to the pope denying that he had ever attempted to bribe any one to the extent of 10,000 florins or that he had corrupted with money the Roman curia, "innocens sum totaliter et immunis nec unquam talia attemptavi." One more letter also exists (263), which though undated was probably written this

autumn. It is from Ralph to the pope thanking him for confirming him against his foes, and asking what he can offer for all he has received. He declares himself the devoted servant of the pope. On December 16, 1330, he has letters of protection[1] until the following Whitsuntide going beyond the sea, and the same day, by patent roll, it is certified that he has appointed Walter de Bruton and John de Sutton, chaplains, his attornies until Whitsuntide, and as a precaution until the following Michaelmas. The period occupied by the negociations from the date of his election to that of his entry into the diocese as its bishop was no less than two years, during which he was compelled to incur great expense, and was never free from anxiety as to the issue. If one may venture to account for this, and for the persistence of his foes at the Roman court, it may perhaps be explained by the hypothesis that Ralph was a protégé of the Mortimer family. Their influence in the western counties of England and on the Welsh border was very great, and he may have acknowledged in a way which made him prominent his adherence to this family. He counts on one at the papal court as his friend, and he made another archdeacon of Wells, and it appears as if he avoided the Parliament of Westminster, November 30, 1330, when the Earl of March was condemned. Were those enemies of whom he so bitterly complains those four courageous bishops, Melton of York, Ross of Carlisle, Heath of Rochester, and Gravesend of London? The opposition ceased after the manifesto at Nottingham in October, 1330, and it had probably been satisfied with the humiliation of this adherent of the hated family during the long weary months of 1330. It was an age of great duplicity, and we shall probably never discover all that Ralph had to pay in order to overcome this opposition.

But we must now turn to the Register and see what Ralph did after his consecration in September, 1329. On September 8 he was in London, and acknowledged a sum of money lent him by the Abbot and Convent of Glastonbury, and in London he remained for at least a week. Then he went to Dogmersfield in Hampshire, one of the episcopal manors of the bishops of Bath and Wells, and here he stays for the rest of the year. The bond (32), signed in Wells on the Tuesday before October 14, 1329, does not necessarily imply that he was in Wells himself. His first ordination he held at Reading on the Advent ember Saturday (58, 59), because as he says he was unable to go down into his own diocese. He writes[2] to the Dean from Dogmersfield in reference to a loan of a mitre and other episcopal ornaments on October 15

[1] *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 1330, p. 27. [2] *Wells Cath. MSS.*, p. 98-9.

and 23, and sends receipt November 13. The next year he rented the manor of Oxted in Surrey from John de Elham (232), and spent most of his time there or at Dogmersfield holding an ordination at the latter place (162) in Lent, and arranges for the Trinity ordination in Somerset to be taken (182) by the bishop of Llandaff, while the September and Advent ordination he took himself at Andover and Oxted. On December 20 he wrote to the dean (251) informing him of the intention of going abroad for the purpose of visiting the pope, and the Xmas of 1330 he spent at Oxted, having obtained the archbishop's permission on December 15 (258). On January 1 he was at Wimbledon, and on the 8th at Elmham, and on the 19th he is at Arras. On June 27 he is back again at Oxted (266), and on the last day of this month writes to the Dean and Chapter of Wells and Prior and Convent of Bath to inform them of his intention to hold a visitation of the two churches during the following month (267). On July 8 he is at Dogmersfield, and on the 27th he is at Wookey, and probably entered the diocese for the first time as bishop about the middle of July, 1331. Meanwhile on the 25th of this month he received notice from the archbishop of his intention to visit the diocese himself and that he proposed to visit the churches of Wells and Bath in the month of September. This could not have come as a surprise to Bishop Ralph, for Archbishop Mepeham had already visited the diocese of Rochester, and was then on his way through Chichester and Salisbury, and indeed it was probable that the knowledge of this impending visit may have induced him to anticipate it himself, and so to correct abuses before they were pointed out to him by a superior authority. The friction it created, however, is shown in his appeal to the Roman Curia (416). On August 7 he is at Banwell, and on September 10 we have the first official notice that he was in Wells. His presence would be necessary on account of the approaching visit of the archbishop, but immediately afterwards, as we show below, he seems to have been engaged in a partial visitation of the diocese, going westward from Bath and as far south as the deanery of Axbridge. Then in December he was called back to Wells for two very important matters. There had been disturbances at Glastonbury, and something very like an attack on the followers of the archbishop by the attendants of the bishop, and an inquisition has to be held to discover the culprits and their actual offences. Two inquiries at Wells and at Glastonbury were held, and the bishop himself presides on November 30 at the latter place.

What became of the archbishop's visitation and how it fared is not related. In June of the following year Mepeham went to Exeter and

found in Bishop Grandisson a more formidable opponent than Bishop Ralph, and in the interval must have returned to Lambeth.

Meanwhile another and much more costly visitor was on a tour in the West. On November 20, Edward III was at Guildford, and on December 6 at Clarendon, and there he left the Queen, whose delicate state of health made it inadvisable for her to travel further. On Christmas Eve the King kept his Court at Wells and stayed there until the Epiphany. The only house where he could have been lodged was the bishop's palace, and the statement "multa fiebant mirabilia sumptuosa,"[1] suggests how grievous an expense it must have been to the bishop. The palace at that time was without the protection of the embattled walls and moat. Bishop Burnell's magnificent hall and the buildings south-east of the chapel were but thirty years old, and the north-west wing of the present palace was not in existence. Bishop Ralph himself was probably at Wookey. There would not have been room for him and the King in Wells, and on January 4, Ralph was certainly as far off as Banwell. He must however have said mass in the cathedral on Christmas Day, and probably also on January 6, before the King left. It is interesting to note also that one of the letters written by the King from Wells on January 6, was addressed to the pope in favour of Archbishop Mepeham. Men were reporting at Avignon that Mepeham had publicly advocated in the last parliament that the papal nuncios should not be allowed to remain in England or permitted to exercise their office. The King was anxious to deny this report, and perhaps we may see in this the influence of Bishop Ralph and a desire on his part to cultivate more friendly terms with the archbishop.[2]

The following year, if we may judge from the places visited, Bishop Ralph seems to have continued his interrupted visitation, and also to have visited most of his episcopal manors, including those at Pucklechurch and Dogmersfield, and he was in London in March and in September in attendance at parliament and the provincial convocation.

The next year was also a year of visitations. The bishop remained in the diocese all the year with the exception of a few days at the end of August, when, being at Pucklechurch, he went as far into Gloucestershire as Tewkesbury.

In 1334 the bishop went to London in April, and he was there also in September, when he was present at the parliament of Westminster September 19–23.

[1] *Annales Paulini*, p. 356.

[2] *Cf.* nos. 373, 377.

In 1335, the bishop was in Somerset all the time with the exception of a visit he seems to have paid in the spring to S. Michael's, Cornwall, (741), and for the greater part of the year in the neighbourhood of Wells. In December he seems to have been engaged in some inquiries of a visitatorial character in Wells.[1]

The next year was also spent in the diocese, and for the most part at Banwell. He was in ill-health and had to be excused attendance at the parliament at Nottingham. So he writes from Banwell to the King on September 15 "detentus gravissima nostri corporis infirmitate," and he wrote also to the Bishop of Lincoln (1034) requesting him to act as his proxy. This was not the first time that Bishop Ralph had been unable to attend to his parliamentary duties. In 1332 he wrote to excuse his absence (491), and the frequency of these excuses in after years suggests advancing years and increasing physical infirmities.

In 1337 the bishop was in London in March, but the rest of his time was spent in Somerset, and in November and December he seems to have been a good deal in Wells[2] and visited the cathedral church again. It is probably at this time that he formally established the ordinance that the chancellor of the cathedral church should give lectures in theology. The ordinance which is referred to (1294 and 2402)[3] is printed in Wilkins, and is dated December 4, 1335. The chapter documents record the appointment of John de Middleton as chancellor, November 20, 1337, under this condition, and on December 15 of this year Symon de Bristol became chancellor and took oath that "he would read at Wells, or cause to be read, a lecture in theology *vel in decretis* at the time when a lecture of this kind is given in the University of Oxford."[4]

In 1338 the bishop was in London in March, but the rest of the year he was in the diocese and chiefly at Banwell, Wells, Wookey and Blackford. He was too ill to go to parliament in the summer, and wrote from Banwell on April 11 to excuse his attendance (1213). He was probably also engaged in the erection of an episcopal manor house at Blackford. This was "voluptuose constructa," and quite unnecessary, and was pulled down in 1391 by Bishop Erghum, the Wells chapter assenting to the demolition as "in nullo penitus necessaria."[5]

The next year was spent entirely in the diocese, and indeed he does not appear to have gone far from Somerset until his visit to London in October, 1342. On September 2 of the previous year he had obtained, by the aid of the King, the appropriation of the rectory of Chew Magna to

[1] *Wells MSS.*, p. 137–9. [2] *Ibid.*, p. 135–7. [3] *Conc.* ii, 578. [4] *Wells MSS.*, p. 104, 139. [5] *Ibid.*, p. 129.

his table on account of the impoverished state of the episcopal revenues.[1]

In 1343 he was in London in May, but in August and September wrote to excuse his absence from the Council at Westminster (1731, 1739) but does not assign any reason for it. He was, however, involved in a very serious quarrel with the inhabitants of the city of Wells. After the royal visit of 1331–2 he seems to have begun the fortification of the palace at Wells, and probably in order to form the moat round the house was obliged to divert the stream from its usual course through the city. There is an entry (1040) in the register which is undated, but probably belongs to the autumn of 1336, in which reference is made to an attack on strangers who were with the dean in the palace at Wells, and this seems to suggest that the town viewed with considerable suspicion the probable effect of the strengthening of the palace walls,[2] and their suspicion drove them into violence. It was owing to these attacks on the bishop's officers that a royal inquisition was held with the Earl of Devon at its head to enquire into the bishop's claim to hold courts leet and baron and to summon the attendance of the burghers of Wells. The action took place on November 8, and the £3,000 damage given to the bishop may perhaps include some loss in reference to the new work round his palace.[3] Edward III grants Ralph a charter for recovery of the £3,000, and on November 20 annuls the city charter. This same year Bishop Ralph obtained a licence in mortmain, but the particular purpose does not appear.

In 1344 the bishop was in London in April and June, and also in April of the succeeding year. His last visit to town seems to have been in February of 1346. In January, 1348 (2144) he writes to the King begging him to excuse his attendance at the parliament of Westminster, since through weakness of body he cannot travel so far. In January, 1351, he writes to William de Edington, Bishop of Winchester (2519), requesting him to act as his proxy since he cannot, owing to his infirmity, attend parliament. Again in August, 1352, he writes (2677) to say that the great distance and other hindrances make it impossible to attend. Ten years afterwards, in August, 1362 (91*) he is excused from attending any longer personally at the meetings of parliament.

It is of course impossible to say from the evidence given us in the register that the bishop did not leave the diocese after his visit to

[1] *Wells MSS.*, p. 141, 191, confirmed by pope, Aug. 2, 1346. *Cal. Pap. Reg.*, 1334, p. 411.
[2] The licence to crenelate was 14 E. III, *i.e.* 1340. [3] *Wells MSS.*, p. 112. Church's *Wells*, p. 319.

London in 1346. The seven years between 1354 and 1361, for which no register exists, may have witnessed the bishop's restoration to health. But the evidence we have during the year 1346–54 all tends to suggest that he was in delicate health and probably that he felt the weight of increasing years. He does not leave the diocese during that interval except to visit on two occasions his manor of Pucklechurch. When the register begins again in 1361 he is at Wiveliscombe, and does not move away at all. This was clearly his favourite manor house; here he remained during the anxious period when the diocese was devastated by the Great Pestilence, and the diocese seems to have been administered latterly by his suffragan John de Langebrugge, "episcopus Buducensis." In his letter to the Archdeacon of Wells which he wrote from Wiveliscombe, July 16, 1362, and in which he informed him of his choice of Langebrugge as his suffragan, there is evidence that the diocese had already got somewhat out of hand. It was impossible that such a state of things could have existed had the bishop been able to travel. The chantries and additional altars that were being erected in the parochial and conventual churches had to be consecrated. The gifts of the faithful laity had to be solemnly dedicated. That there were a good many bishops without sees in England at this time, Bishop Stubbs' list clearly proves. One, Thomas, episcopus Chrysopolis, suffragan of York, was especially employed in this duty of consecrating altars and chalices. The aged Bishop Grandisson of Exeter employed as his suffragan from 1355 till his death in 1370, John Ware, "episcopus Comanageniensis." The difficulty therefore of securing the assistance of their own bishop may have justified many a parish priest in accepting the service of some "episcopus pretensus," and the complaint in the letter referred to seems to confirm our opinion as to the extreme old age of Bishop Ralph at this time.

We must turn back, however, to refer to the great crisis of Bishop Ralph's episcopate which the terrible visitation of the Great Pestilence created. It began in the autumn of 1348 and raged through the winter and on into the early summer of 1349. The summer of 1348 had been very wet and the scarcity which the inclement weather created prepared a suitable soil for the progress of the plague. The first notice of it in the Register is the prayer which the Bishop issued (2043) for use in the diocese "Omnipotens Deus de cujus trono procedunt tonitrua . . ." The bishop was at Evercreech and sent forth this prayer xvi Kal. Sept. 1348. It seems to have been very hastily copied into the Register. Then we find that the Institutions increase enormously in number from December onwards. The bishop retired to Wiveliscombe and stayed there all

through the crisis. On iv. Id. Jan., 1349, he issued (2130) a mandate concerning Confession for those who had been seized with sickness and were in articulo mortis. In the absence of a priest they might confess to laymen and even if necessary to a woman. Clergy in deacons' orders were permitted to administer the Holy Eucharist. In No. 2297 we have the first Ordinance of labourers. It was intended to repress the effort made by those in villenage to improve their condition by refusing to yield to the revived demands of servile duty. Many precariæ had fallen into abeyance and now the labourers were demanding wages for this increased need of their work. This Ordinance was issued in June, 1349, by the King and Council and became a Statute on the demand of Parliament in 1351. The same trouble is referred to in No. 2475, where it corresponds with Gower's description of the labourers

> Horum de mille vix est operarius ille
> Qui tibi vult pacto factus inesse suo.

In No. 2473 we also have a notice of the trouble as it showed itself in the ranks of the clergy. The stipendiary priests and chaplains were becoming dissatisfied and even the beneficed clergy were infected,

> Persones and parisch prestes. playneth to heore bisschops
> That heore parisch hath ben pore. seththe the pestilence tymes
> And asketh leue and lycence. at London to dwelle
> To sing ther for simonye. for seluer is swete.

No wonder that so many priests were found to have favoured the rising of the Commons in 1381.[1] In No. 2729 we have a further reference to the distress in a remission of fines by reason of the agricultural distress. The Register gives us the cold records of the terrible year, but for the suffering and loss generally we must refer the reader to the graphic account of Dr. Gasquet.

We cannot conclude the present sketch of the episcopate of Bishop Ralph without a reference to his munificence towards the cathedral church at Wells, and his improvements on the episcopal manors. We have referred in another section to his successful efforts to improve the manors of Cheddar and Axbridge by obtaining the disafforestation of the Mendip Forest. The Canon of Wells tells us he built a chapel at Wyveliscombe, and rebuilt entirely the manor house at Claverton and at Evercreech, "totam Curiam de Claverton et unam Cameram onestam valde sumptuosam apud Evercrich."[2] At Blackford he built a

[1] *Cf. The Rising in East Anglia*, by E. Powell, p. 25. [2] *Ang. Sac.* i, 569. Godwin and Richardson's Vitæ, 377.

wholly unnecessary manor house as we have already mentioned. In 1345 he founds in the Conventual Church of St. Peter, Shrewsbury, an altar and a daily mass pro bono statu, and for the souls of his parents (1924) and he couples with Richard de Dudyngton as his attornies to convey the lands for this endowment a Stephen de Salopia, rector of Oldbury and a possible relative. It is unfortunate that the Register, as it at present exists, gives us so little evidence of his benefactions in Wells. It is certain that his work there was very considerable. His improvements and enlargement of the palace must have been exceedingly costly. In 1347 he had drawn up a series of statutes for the due ordering of the vicars attached to the cathedral church. His friend Canon Walter de Hull had also in 1348 begun to provide these priests with a suitable dwelling, and before 1354 the bishop took up this task[1] and built for them a hall, chapel and lodgings, and endowed the college with lands at Wellesleigh and other places.[2] What he did for the cathedral church at Wells, and to what extent the tradition is justified by documentary evidence I must leave to be told by the able pen of the present Sub-dean.[3] That he was regarded as a benefactor, and justly so, we need not doubt. Already at St. Martin's Chantry, founded April 15, 1350, for the soul of John de Somerton, late abbot of Muchelney, he was daily mentioned in the mass (2450, 2,460), as he was at Keynsham by order of Abbot Nicholas (974) in 1336 in gratitude for his willingness to help the Abbey in the matter of the West Harptree advowson and at Montacute in 1362 an anniversary mass "pro bono statu" was established (98*) on the morrow of the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul by order of prior Gerald de Roche.

We have said nothing about the penitentiary system for which the Register continually shows that the bishop was especially careful. It was impossible for him effectually to regulate the patronage of the diocese. By papal provision and by private patrons, young, unlearned, and in not a few cases probably unfit men were instituted to many of the churches of the diocese. Nor were they always resident. The spiritual needs of great nobles and their own need of study called them away from their benefices for many months at a time. The parishes were therefore left to the care of chaplains and chantry priests, who had no pastoral duties, and for whom probably the parishioners had no special regard. The bishop, therefore, year by year at the beginning of Lent, authorised a number of trusted priests to act as confessors for the

[1] *Wells MSS.*, p. 169. [2] The *Patent Roll* is dated Dec. 3, 1349. [3] The Rev. C. M. Church, Canon Residentiary of Wells.

laity in the diocese, and as a rule he chose them from among the Dominican, Franciscan, Carmelite, or Austin friars. They were not like the monastic clergy precluded by the rules of their order from going about, as these confessors would have to do, from parish to parish, and the bishop could place confidence in men like these, who at the time of which we write were generally of acknowledged probity of morals. In his will he especially remembered these orders, and made bequests to their houses at Oxford, Bridgwater, Bristol and Ilchester, that they might celebrate Divine Service and pray for his soul. The will is dated[1] at Wiveliscombe May 12, 1363, and he named as his executors Precentor Camel and Canons Robert de Nettleton and William Derby. He bequeathed to the cathedral church of Wells one noted missal for the high altar, one pair of white vestments for the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and £10 for the fabric fund. To the cathedral church of Bath he had been a good friend,[2] granting to the convent special indulgences that they might obtain funds for the rebuilding of their church, and especially the completion of the central tower, and he left them a chest to contain their relics and various vestments for the service of the altar. Three months after he had signed his will he entered into his rest at Wiveliscombe, being the Vigil of the Assumption of Saint Mary the Virgin Mother of God (Aug. 14). He was buried in the presbytery of the cathedral church of Wells[3] "inter gradus Chori et summum altare in tumba de alabastro cui imago supponitur valde conforma figuræ illius." Two years afterwards, when the beautiful monument was probably completed, the dean and chapter ordered a chest with two locks and keys to be placed near the tomb, and the offerings which it was found from time to time to contain, show that his memory was long kept in grateful remembrance. The proceeds[4] of the oblations were spent on a frontal for the high altar and the residue as the chapter might think fit. Thus lived and died a man whose name suggests his humble origin, and whose register attests his faithfulness in performing all the duties of his high office. Like his neighbour and friend Bishop Grandisson of Exeter, he set an example to the episcopal bench of his age. He had conquered over all the initial difficulties of his episcopate, he had broken down the hostility of the Pope, he had paid enormous sums in litigation at Avignon so that during the earlier years the see was so crippled for means that he was driven from sheer poverty to obtain the rectory of Chew for the support of his hospitality. He found the manor houses in need of repair

[1] Islip Reg., f. 224. [2] *Cf. Lincoln's Inn MSS.*, 808. Hunt's *Bath.* [3] *Ang. Sac.* i, 569. [4] *Wells MSS.*, p. 115.

and some almost ruinous, and he sumptuously restored them. His munificence if it did not rival Grandisson's, won at least the admiration of his diocese. His action was firm and yet influenced always by sweet reasonableness. With his chapter at Wells and the great monastic corporations in Somerset he lived on friendly terms, and after a long and laborious episcopate, during which he was ever moving about within the diocese, and for many years of which he never left the county, full of years and honour, he fell asleep bequeathing a name which has ever been one of the most honourable among the long list of great names who have possessed the see, justly beloved and revered by all true children of the English Church in the Diocese of Bath and Wells.

## Bishop Ralph's Itinerary.

1329. Caddington, September 13; Cranfield and London, September 16; Dogmersfield, September 26—end of the year.

1330. Dogmersfield, January 2; London, January 23; Barnes, January 28; London, January 30; Dogmersfield, February 3–16; Barnes, February 20; Dogmersfield, February 25, March 9; Crawley, March 16; Winchester, March 20; Dogmersfield, March 24, May 8; Okstede, June 13, August 4; Dogmersfield, September 17, October 30; Reading, November 25; Wimbledon, December 9, 13; Okstede, December 20.

1331. Wimbledon, January 1; Elmham, January 8; Arras, January 19; Okstede, June 27, 30; Dogmersfield, July 15; Wookey, July 27; Banwell, August 7; Blackford, August 25; Compton Bishop, August 23; Wells, September 10; Wookey, September 11; Chew, September 12; Shapwick, September 16; Whitchurch, September 25; Frome and Beckington, October 1; Dogmersfield, October 8; Evercreech, October 26, 27; Maperton, November 5; West Camel, November 8; Yeovil, November 10; Porlock, November 23; Luccombe, November 24; Stogumber, November 28; Taunton, December 4; Glastonbury, December 10; Evercreech, December 13.

1332. Banwell, January 4–February 8; Huntspill, February 16; Monkton, February 18; East Coker, February 25; Milborne Port, February 26; Evercreech, February 27; Radstock, March 6; Hemington, March 8; Witham, March 9;

Claverton, March 11; London, March 19, 26; Okstede, April 3, 4; Banwell, April 22, 26; Yatton, April 30–May 11; Chew, May 17, 26; Pucklechurch, May 20, 23; Evercreech, May 28; Chew, June 1; Yatton, June 4, 10, 17, 29; Cheddar, July 1; Blackford, July 10–August 22; London, September 6; Mortlake, September 13; Dogmersfield, September 17, 24; Evercreech, October 1; Chew, October 3, 7; Banwell, October 10–December 24.

1333. Banwell, January 2; Chewton Mendip, January 6; Cirencester, February 6; Claverton, February 11; Wookey, February 17, 20; Bridgwater, February 24; Wyveliscombe, March 1–16; West Buckland, March 17; Wellington, March 21; Wyveliscombe, March 29–May 14; Wellington, May 1; Kingsbury, May 26, 31; Evercreech, June 17, 25; Wookey, July 5, 9, 18; Blackford, July 24, August 1; Slymbridge near Gloucester, August 18; Tewkesbury, August 31; Pucklechurch, September 2; Chew, September 3; Wookey, September 7, 9, 13; Wells, September 13; Bath, September 16; Claverton, September 18; Chew and Yatton, September 22; Worspring, September 23; Bridgwater, October 2; Blackford, October 4–9; Ilchester, October 14, 15; Long Sutton, October 16; Blackford, November 5; Wells, November 9; Evercreech, November 15–30; Banwell, December 13–29.

1334. Banwell, January 6–28; Wells and Wookey, February 3; Claverton, February 8, 13, 23; Leigh near Bristol, February 25; Chew, February 28; Banwell, March 3–24; Wookey, April 6; Okstede, April 23, 25; London, April 30; Pucklechurch, May 3–7; Wookey, May 19; Blackford, June 12–August 28; Yatton, June 19; Dunster, July 5; Claverton, September 1; London, September 20–26; Dogmersfield, October 13; Milborne Port, October 20; East Coker, October 21; Chard, October 24, 26; Butleigh, October 30; Kingsbury, November 1; North Curry, November 6; Taunton, November 8; Wyveliscombe, November 14–December 31.

1335. Wyveliscombe, January 3–March 22; Glastonbury, April 9; Banwell, April 30; Chew, May 15; Blackford, June 2; Banwell, July 4, 10, 23–August 23; Yatton, August 25; Banwell, August 27, September 19, 26, 28, October 17, 30, November 1, 3; Wookey, November 2; Wells, December 4, 5; Combe, December 14; Wellington, December 15; Wyveliscombe, December 20–31.

1336. Wyveliscombe, January 11; Evercreech, January 18; March 3; Claverton, March 28; Wells, May 1; Barlinch, May 7; Wyveliscombe, June 1, 3; Blackford, June 9, 11, 15, July 1, 12, 28; Banwell, August 8, 16, 20, September 12, 16, 22, October 20, 23; Evercreech, November 10, 12; Banwell, November 17; Evercreech, November 28, December 10; Banwell, December 14; Wells, December 20.

1337. Evercreech, January 12, 13; London, March 4; Fulham, March 17; Hewish, April 1; Wyveliscombe, April 8–22; Yatton, April 30; Wyveliscombe, May 3; Bridgwater, May 15; Bristol, May 19; Tormarton, May 22; Pucklechurch and Queen Charlton, May 25; Keynsham, May 26; Wyveliscombe, July 8, 13; Banwell, August 18; Evercreech, October 5, 13; Banwell, October 15; Evercreech, October 25, November 24; Wells, November 19, December 4, 10; Bath, December 15; Banwell, December 21.

1338. Evercreech, January 30; Wookey, February 20; London, March 1; Wyveliscombe, March 30; Lympsham, April 3; Banwell, April 6, 11, 20; Wells, May 13; Evercreech, June 17; Wookey, July 6, 19, 21, 24; Claverton, September 22, 26; Evercreech, September 30; Blackford and Wells, October 30; Blackford, November 4; Wookey, November 28.

1339. Wookey, January 1, 6, February 3, 15, 18, 26, March 5, 20, 31; Kingsbury, April 2; Evercreech, April 4; Churchill Court, May 4; Wells, May 13; Wellington, June 3, 13, 20; Evercreech, August 7, 13, 21, October 1, 3; Dogmersfield, November 3, December 13.

1340. Wells, March 2; Kingsbury, March 30; Wyveliscombe, April 28, May 26; Wellington, July 13; Midsomer Norton, August 20; Evercreech, August 27, September 13, October 15, 20; Wryngton, November 19.

1341. Blackford, January 15, 28, February 6; Evercreech, February 17; Wyveliscombe, March 30, April 2, May 6; Chew, June 11, 19, July 12, 18; Evercreech, August 3, 9, December 19, 22.

1342. Walton, January 17, Wyveliscombe, February 10; Wellington, February 24; Wyveliscombe, March 16; Bishop's Lydeard, March 18; Wyveliscombe, April 26, 28; May 12, 17; Ilminster, June 4; Trent, June 11; Ashton near Bristol, July 25; Pucklechurch, August 7; Evercreech, August 11; September 12; Bath, September 29; Claverton, October 1;

London, October 25; Taunton, November 7; Milverton, December 15; Wyveliscombe, December 4, 5, 15.

1343. Wyveliscombe, February 5, 9, 22, 23, March 6, 16, 31, April 3, 8; London, May 1, 2; Evercreech, June 8, 9; Yatton, June 25; Banwell, June 30, July 5, 14; Claverton, September 4, 7; Dogmersfield, September 20, 21; Evercreech, September 29; Pilton, September 29; Beckington, October 2; Wookey, October 12, 14, 26; West Camel, October 14; Bleadon, October 24; Poyntington, November 1; North Petherton, November 8; Wyveliscombe, November 24, 29; December 8, 10, 17, 27.

1344. Wyveliscombe, January 2, 7, 20, 24, 29, February 1, 11, 17, March 3; Wells, March 13; Wookey, March 15, April 6; Dogmersfield, April 15; London, April 23, 25; Dogmersfield, April 28, May 4, 12, 27, June 1; London, June 14; Evercreech, July 10, 14, 17, 28, August 9, 14, 20, 29, September 3; Banwell, September 15, 24, October 7, 13, 19, 21; Combe St. Nicholas and Thurlbeare, November 10; Wyveliscombe, November 16, December 11, 17.

1345. Wyveliscombe, January 6, 23, March 3; Dogmersfield, March 18, 30, April 4; Fulham, April 13; Dogmersfield, May 1, 14; Evercreech, June 1, 14; Banwell, July 1, 3, August 1; Evercreech, August 8; Bruton, September 12; Banwell, September 24, October 4, 11, 23, November 17; Wells, December 8; Banwell, December 19.

1346. Banwell, January 12, 13; Dogmersfield, February 6; Fulham February 13; Dogmersfield, February 26, March 4; Wyveliscombe, March; 15 Dogmersfield, April 6, 28, May 14, 21; Evercreech, May 30; Yeovil, June 12; Wellington, June 19; Taunton, July 4; Bishop's Lydeard, July 6; Wyveliscombe, August 18; Wellington, August 25; Wyveliscombe, August 26, November 22; Wells, December 10.

1347. Wyveliscombe, February 21, 24, March 5, 9, 27, April 7, 26, May 26, June 13, 17, 29; Wellington, July 11; Compton, July 18; Banwell, July 23; Chew, July 31; Evercreech, August 11, 12, October 23; Yeovilton, October 30; Chard, November 7; Wyveliscombe, November 21, 28, December 7, 21, 30.

1348. Wyveliscombe, January 2, 15, 23, February 5, 17, 22, April 17, 22, May 16, 28; Chew, June 25; Pucklechurch, June 26; Evercreech, July 27, August 3, 8, 22, September 1, 3; Wells,

September 30; Claverton, October 12, 20, 30; Wyveliscombe, November 8, 19, 27, December 3, 14, 24, 30.

1349. Wyveliscombe, January 1–May 1; Yatton, July 22; Wookey, October 6; Chew, October 19, 20; Norton, November 12; Monkton, November 22; Wyveliscombe, December 5, 30.

1350. Wyveliscombe, January 1–February 22; April 19–29, May 1–14; Wellington, May 18–22; Banwell, May 29, June 2; Yatton, June 10, 28; Chew, July 3; Ashton, July 8; Yatton, July 8–17; Blackford, July 9; Banwell, July 18, 21; Yatton, July 31, August 3, 10; Banwell, August 20; Evercreech, August 24, 28; Wookey, September 1; Chew, September 6; Evercreech, September 10; Pucklechurch, September 16; Midsomer Norton, September 29; Evercreech, October 1; Wookey, October 7; Evercreech, October 9; Taunton, November 24; Bishop's Lydeard, November 26; Wyveliscombe, November 26, December 10, 14, 21, 26.

1351. Wiveliscombe, January 7, 14, February 12, 27, March 1, 7, 9, 16, 26, April 5, 16, 25, May 5, June 14, 15; Wookey, June 31; Banwell, July 13, 20; Yatton, July 31, August 1; Banwell, August 16, September 6, 17, 21, 23, 30, October 2, 3, 8, 10; Blackford, October 11; Banwell, October 13, 14, 23, 25; Chew, November 2; Banwell, November 14, 22, December 5, 14, 20, 30.

1352. Banwell, January 13, 16, 28, 31, February 3; Wyveliscombe, February 16, 21, March 13, 22, 29, April 4, 16, May 7, June 23, July 22, August 2, 8, 23; Luccombe, August 31; Enmore, September 6; High Ham, September 20; Puckington and Ilminster, September 26; Kingsbury, September 27; Chiselborough, October 3; Sparkford, October 14; Evercreech, October 24; Wells, October 26; Wookey, October 29; Yatton, November 3; Keynsham, November 16; Batcombe, November 27; Banwell, December 22.

1353. Banwell, January 21, 25, 26; Wyveliscombe, February 8, March 15, 25, April 10, 26, May 8, 14, 20, June 7, 11, 15; Kingsbury, July 13; Evercreech, July 21; Banwell, July 28, August 4, 6, 15, 23, 27, September 4, 6, 14, 18, 20, October 1, 10, 21; Wells, October 24; Banwell, November 2, 19, 24, December 1, 3, 9, 14, 15.

1354. Banwell, January 20; Wyveliscombe, February 14, 26, March 3, 7, 11, 13, 18, 22, 24, 27, April 17, May 24.

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1361. Wyveliscombe, November 3.
1362. There are sixty documents all dated from Wyveliscombe, and in every month in the year, and there is nothing to show that Bishop Ralph moved away from this place during the twelve months.
1363. The bishop remained at Wyveliscombe all the year. He died here on August 14, being the Vigil of the Assumption S.M.V.

## The Deans of Wells.

The relationship between the bishop and his cathedral church was already becoming strained, and in the case of a bishop such as Bishop Ralph, who spent most of his time in his diocese, great care was necessary lest the privileges of the chapter or the immunities which they claimed, should impair the authority which was inherently episcopal. We cannot help but admire therefore the caution which Bishop Ralph displayed. In every case he gained his end, but on all occasions he was careful so to explain his action as not to arouse the susceptibilities of the chapter. He had been called upon by the free election of the two chapters to rule those churches and their clergy, where formerly he had served, and the need for caution and sweet reasonableness was naturally all the more desirable. On the eve of his departure to Avignon December 18, 1330,[1] the bishop wrote to dean John de Godelegh and appointed him his vicar-general during his absence, and as soon as ever he had finished his first visitation and had got rid of the archbishop's retinue he grants, September, 1332,[2] to dean Godelegh licence to be absent from Wells as long as he shall be engaged on the business of the fabric of the cathedral church. Two months afterwards, November 24, 1332,[3] he sends to the dean and chapter a prohibition against the use of the church and cemetery for markets or fairs.

The following spring, February 9, 1333,[4] he grants licence to the chapter to proceed to elect a successor to his deceased friend, and on February 20,[5] admits as dean Richard de Bury or de Sancto Edmundo. Within a year the celebrated Richard de Bury was promoted to the see of Durham,[6] and the negociation for the appointment of his successor offer some considerable difficulties. The application for licence to the chapter to proceed to the election is dated February 2, 1334,[7] and the licence is granted on the following day.[8] Two days afterwards Wibert

[1] No. 251. [2] No. 440. [3] No. 492. [4] No. 525. [5] No. 529.
[6] He was consecrated December 19, 1333. [7] No. 648. [8] In *Wells MSS.*, p. 102, there is some confusion of dates in reference to this election, and perhaps falsification.

de Littleton, who claimed to have been elected to the deanery, appealed to Canterbury because the bishop had revoked the licence to elect.[1] When the election took place is uncertain. If on January 17, as the *Wells MSS.* assert, then it was illegal, because no licence had been obtained, and the assertion of the chapter on April 22, in regard to the selection of Littleton "nulla instigatione hominis precedente statim, subito et repente omnes unanimiter Spiritus Sancti gratia ut firmiter credimus inspirati, nullo penitus discrepante," is manifestly false, seeing that Bishop Ralph as early as January 20[2] knew that Walter de London had been provided with the deanery and must have told the chapter so. Yet on April 22, Littleton was recognised[3] as dean elect of Wells, and the bishop gave notice[4] then that all who opposed the appointment were to appear before him on the Friday after the feast of the Holy Trinity. The *Calendar of Papal Letters*[5] gives us an explanation of the delay. Walter de London, a King's clerk and high in the royal favour, had obtained a provision of the deanery when Richard de Bury should vacate it. This provision however had not been signed when John XXII died, and thus London was unable to substantiate his claim to the post, and so probably the confirmation of Littleton was allowed to proceed. But there is no evidence that Littleton, whose election was irregular, was ever installed as dean, and while negotiations were still unsettled Littleton died. Then the chapter again attempted to ignore London, and on August 20[6] applied for licence to proceed to an election in place of Littleton, and on August 31, London appealed to Canterbury against the chapter and to restrain Bishop Ralph[7] from granting the desired licence, and this was followed by a direct appeal to the Roman Court. Meanwhile negotiations were going on between the English court[8] and the Roman curia. On August 6, 1334, Robert de Stratford was provided with the deanery "void by the consecration of Richard, bishop of Durham," and Walter de London was provided with the archdeaconry of Canterbury, the King making sure that one of his friends should gain something.[9] Everything was to be gained by delay, and London was at least successful in delaying an election at Wells. All through the year nothing was done, and on March 6, 1335,[10] at the request of Edward III, pope Benedict XII,[11] ratified the unsigned will of his predecessor and thus enabled London to make good his claim on the deanery. On June 1 of the following year (1336), London obtained a

[1] No. 740. [2] No. 737. [3] No. 667. [4] No. 669. [5] Vol. ii, p. 521.
[6] *Wells MSS.*, 102. [7] No. 933. [8] No. 938. [9] *C. Papal Letters*, ii, p. 402-3.
[10] *Ibid.*, 521. [11] The Cardinal of St. Prisca was elected pope Dec. 20, 1334.

papal indult[1] allowing him to absent himself from his duties in Wells as long as he was engaged at the court as the King's confessor, and on April 20, 1337,[2] Edward III grants to London, whom he describes as the King's clerk, dean of Wells, and King's confessor and almoner, welcome with board, lodging and livery in a royal palace whenever he may desire to enjoy it. Thus the evidence seems to authorise us in regarding Walter de London as the successor of Richard de Bury, and to regard the election of Wibert de Littleton as only a part of a plan that did not succeed. Had he lived the contest would have been interesting and instructive. Walter de London died in the spring of 1350, and on April 14 the bishop appointed Nicholas de Pontesbury,[3] a canon and subdean, as guardian of the temporalities during the vacancy. This action of the bishop was perhaps his answer to the claim of the chapter on the vacancy caused by the promotion of Bury.[4] A record of it does not appear in the chapter documents. The new dean was John de Carleton, a former canon and a profound jurist.[5] No evidence is forthcoming concerning his election. He held the deanery until August, 1361, by which time Bishop Ralph had ceased to be able to take an active part in diocesan affairs. His successor was Stephen Pympel, who was elected after William de Camel had refused the dignity.

## The Bishop and his Archdeacons.

### *Wells.*

Robert de Wamberge had been appointed by exchange with Wybert de Lyttleton, archdeacon of Wells, on June 11, 1326.[6] His predecessor Wybert only held the dignity for a few days, for it was not till May 24, 1326, that Thomas de Charlton resigned the archdeaconry on account of age and failing sight. Wamberge was already a canon of Wells, having been appointed to the prebendal stall of Shalford, 3 Id. June, 1321.[7] In 1329 Ralph writes to the dean and chapter for advice (No. 24) in reference to the appointment, by the King, of Simon de Montacute to the archdeaconry, claiming the benefice through the vacancy of the see during the lifetime of his grandfather Edward I. Nothing is stated as to when the vacancy occurred, but probably it was

[1] *Cal. Papal Letters*, ii, 530. [2] *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 1337, p. 430. [3] No. 2444.
[4] *Wells MSS.*, p. 101. [5] *Cf.* Rym. *Fœd.*, v. 680. [6] Hobhouse's *Drok.*, p. 24.
[7] *Ibid.*, p. 202.

the appointment of Peter de Insula, who succeeded Walter de Hascelshawe during the vacancy caused by the death of Bishop Robert Burnel, December 16, 1292. The grant was made to Simon de Montacute, June 29, 1329,[1] and as early as March 4, 1329, Edward had written to the Pope to provide Simon with a dignity with or without cure in the cathedral church or the diocese of Wells,[2] and on December 29, 1329,[3] Simon is provided by the Pope with the archdeaconry of Wells at the request of the King. it being stated that such office was now "detained by another." The following January, Simon is made a papal chaplain.[4] Meanwhile nothing is said about Robert de Wamberge, who had held the office now for three years, and had not resigned. The action of the King is evidently resented at Wells, for in January, 1330, we find Ralph granting permission to the dean and chapter (No. 95) to search their registers relative to the appointment of the archdeacon, and in February an appeal was lodged as against S. de Montacute's claim by Wamberge in the Archbishop's Court (No. 128), while the King has the question of his right to present decided in his own Court, and gains his case. On February 14, Edward issues his writ to Bishop Ralph to admit Simon de Montacute (No. 129), and on the 16th issues another writ prohibiting him from admitting anyone else (No. 130), and on March 29 he presents Wamberge to the rectory of Wystowe, Lincoln Diocese.[5] Meanwhile Bishop Ralph writes on February 22 to acknowledge the receipt of the writ, and to say he can do nothing since he has been inhibited by the Court of Canterbury pending the appeal (No. 131). In April, on the 25th, the King orders proceedings to be taken by all bailiffs and sheriffs against all who shall impugn the judgment of his court whereby he had gained the appointment to the archdeaconry, and had presented Simon de Monte Acuto,[6] and on May 11 he issues a mandate against those who might molest the friends[7] of Robert de Wamberge, "late archdeacon of Wells," and on the same day a protection and safe conduct to Wamberge who had gone beyond the sea and was returning.[8] It is clear then that Wamberge had already taken his appeal to Avignon, and he was certainly in no hurry to return, for we find (No. 197) that no one was exercising the office of archdeacon of Wells, and that on September 11 the King grants another safe conduct and protection to Wamberge to last till Christmas, he being then abroad but returning. The appeal to the Pope, Wamberge gained, as appears from Nos. 515,

[1] *Cal. Patent Rolls*, p. 403. [2] Rymer's *Fœd.*, iv, 379. [3] *Cal. Papal Letters*, vol. ii, p. 314. *Ibid.*, 315. [5] *C. Patent Rolls*, p. 503. [6] *Ibid.*, 4 E. III, p. 515. Rymer's *Fœd.*, iv, 431. [8] *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 4 E. III, p. 524.

517, 537, when we meet with Bishop Ralph's formal acknowledgment of the sentence March 1, 1331, and Edward seems also to have given up the conflict, for on October 15, 1330, he presents his clerk,[1] Thomas de Upton, to the archdeaconry, which he claims as his from the judgment given in the court on account of the vacancy in the time of Edward I, and on December 24 he issues a mandate to Bishop Ralph to admit him.[2] Simon de Montacute thus drops out from the narrative, and it is clear that he never was archdeacon of Wells. On January 5, 1331, he is presented to the rectory of Wystowe,[3] which apparently Wamberge had refused, and on Id. July, 1332, at the request of Edward, he is provided by the Pope with the archdeaconry of Canterbury,[4] and in 1334 becomes Bishop of Worcester. But to return to Thomas de Upton, it is also evident that he was equally unsuccessful as the royal nominee. Edward finds it necessary to prohibit all interference with him in his efforts to gain the archdeaconry on April 13, 1331,[5] July 6, 1331, and even as late as October 26, 1332,[6] yet in the register we find on May 14, 1333[7] (No. 556), and on June 15, 1333 (No. 680), Wamberge is mentioned as archdeacon, and on February 8, 1334 (No. 649), Thomas de Upton, subdeacon, is instituted to the benefice of Trent. We may therefore infer from this that Wamberge kept the archdeaconry until his death, and that neither of the royal nominees succeeded in ousting him. Wamberge must have died, however, very soon after. He was certainly dead on February 6, 1334.[8]

To Wamberge succeeded Roger de Mortimer, an appointment which seems to suggest that Ralph was allowed a free choice. On July 14, 1335 (No. 784), Ralph cites him to appear at Banwell, and make his due profession of obedience. He is recognized by the Crown as archdeacon in a writ issued November 16, 1337 (No. 1283),[9] and the chapter records afford evidence that he was archdeacon in 1338, and that he came to an agreement with Bishop Ralph as to their limits of jurisdiction (No. 1306). The papal registers tell us something about his earlier life, how he had been made Rector of Castle Richard[10] when only 14 years old, and then Rector of Staunton, in diocese of Ely, and in 1331 was provided with a canonry at Wells,[11] but our local documents do not inform us of his work as archdeacon or of the date of his death. To Mortimer succeeded Thomas Fastolf, and Le Neve gives the date as 1348. We find in our

[1] *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 4 E. III, p. 0. [2] *Ibid.*, p. 30. [3] *Ibid.*, p. 475. [4] *Cal. Papal Letters*, ii, p. 357. [5] *Cal. Patent Rolls*, 5 E. III, p. 101. [6] *Ibid.*, p. 158. [7] *Ibid.*, p. 367. [8] *Ibid.*, 8 E. III, p. 515. [9] *Wells MSS.*, pp. 104, 136. [10] *Cal. Papal Letters*, ii, p. 261. [11] *Ibid.*, p. 341.

register that Fastolf was certainly archdeacon on May 11, 1349 (No. 2340), and on March 1, 1350 (No. 2423). The *Papal Registers* inform us that Fastolf was a native of Yarmouth, and was a clerk attached to Cardinal John, tit. St. Theodore, and that he was provided with a benefice with cure of souls in the Diocese of Ely, ix Kal. June, 1326.[1] In 1340 we find Fastolf in the service of Gotius, Cardinal of St. Prisca, and he has a reservation made him of the Archdeaconry of Norwich.[2] He is here styled Canon of Bangor, and the next year he is described as Archdeacon of Norwich, and allowed to enjoy the fruits though engaged at the time in the service of the Roman church.[3] His successor as Archdeacon of Norwich was appointed February 8, 1347.[4] In 1352 Fastolf was provided with the bishopric of S. Davids, and was consecrated at Rome by William, Cardinal Bishop of Tusculum. The next year we find that William, Cardinal Bishop of Tusculum, has been provided with the Archdeaconry of Wells, and our registers mention him twice, on June 16, 1353 (No. 2739), when his proxy, William Tilney, was formally acknowledged by Bishop Ralph, and on April 12, 1362, when he is referred to as then dead (No. 39*). He was certainly an absentee, and in no way enters personally into our story of diocesan life during this period.

### *Taunton.*

All through this long episcopate there seems to have been only one Archdeacon of Taunton. Robert Hereward was appointed by Bishop Drokensford, December 12, 1320,[5] and the next year he is released from his duties for a liberal term that he may apply himself to study, and on condition that he provides a deputy.[6] In the *Calendar of Papal Letters* he is mentioned as the recipient of a papal indult for five years at the King's request in order that he may study, iv Kal. May, 1321.[7] He is first mentioned in this register on June 27, 1330 (No. 206). On February 10, 1332, the King ratifies his estate as consisting of the archdeaconry, the prebend of Milverton in Wells, and prebends in Exeter, Lincoln and the collegiate church of Bosham.[8] In 1335, he is with Bishop Ralph at Evercreech,[9] and on February 8, 1336, he gets into trouble for hunting without licence on the free chase of Dartmoor.[10]

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[1] *Cal. Papal Letters*, ii, 251. [2] *Ibid.*, ii, 547. [3] *Ibid.*, ii, 554. [4] *Pat. Rolls*, 21 E. III, p. 1, m. 31. [5] Hobhouse's *Drok.*, p. 184. [6] *Ibid.*, p. 190, 272. [7] *C. Papal Letters*, , 210, where the date 1320 is surely wrong. [8] *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 6 E. III, p. 249. [9] *Wells MSS.*, p. 137. [10] *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 10 E. III, p. 282.

It is therefore evident that he was not an absentee archdeacon, and in September, 1340 (No. 1404), he appeals to the Pope against Bishop Ralph's appointment of apparitors and officials in his archdeaconry.[1] In 1341 he is appointed by the dean and chapter, as receiver of the vacant benefice of Fiddington, an office he could not have held had he not been resident in the diocese.

### *Bath.*

Henry de Sandwich had been appointed archdeacon of Bath at the very beginning of Bishop Drokensford's episcopate and apparently he held this office till his death. On July 14, 1333, we find (No. 579) that the archdeaconry is vacant, and (No. 583) we learn that Henry de Sandwich is just dead. On September 12, 1333, we learn (No. 616), that Bishop Ralph has been notified by the official of the Court of Canterbury, that Matthew de Valencenis has appealed against his action in attempting to prevent Matthew from exercising the office of archdeacon. De Valencenis was evidently a Frenchman, probably a connection of the Earls of Pembroke, and on November 8, 1330, he was provided by the Pope with a canonry with prebend in Wells at the request of Joan, Queen of Scotland.[2] It is therefore not improbable that on the death of Sandwich he laid claim to the archdeaconry as the prebend included in his papal provision. Meanwhile something had occurred to induce Matthew to withdraw his appeal November 15, 1333 (No. 628), and on January 25, 1340, we find the bishop's official giving him formal authority to exercise the office of archdeacon (No. 1584). Since, therefore, no evidence is forthcoming that anyone else had been appointed, we may conclude that Bishop Ralph allowed Matthew's claim and that he was in the interval exercising the office, and possibly without formal collation. But a year only elapsed before the archdeacon got into trouble. On January 17, 1341, he was convicted of incontinence (No. 1590), and was fined 100 marks to be paid to the dean and chapter of Wells for the benefit of the fabric fund. On July 17 it is reported that the fine had not been paid, and de Valencenis was therefore pronounced excommunicate. But he had already appealed to the Court of Arches and the Apostolic See (No. 1619), July 14, and on November 7, 1341, Bishop Ralph is inhibited from proceeding pending the judgment of the Court (No. 1627). On March 16, 1342, Matthew loses his case (No. 1653), and on September 29 of that year, he

[1] *Wells MSS.*, p. 107.

[2] *Cal. Papal Letters*, ii, p. 338.

exchanges with Walter de Hulle, subdean of Wells and rector of Wookey (No. 1680), and again on December 5, 1342, he leaves the diocese, exchanging the subdeanery for the rectory of Langley Bourel in the diocese of Salisbury (1690). In this last entry we have intimation that he had appealed to the King's Court. Walter de Hulle is a name well known at Wells during this period.[1] He had been a vicar, had acted as legal agent for the chapter, a canon, and commissary-general of the bishop, and he is mentioned as archdeacon of Bath in 1348.[2] This office he held apparently till 1353. On March 7 of that year, the bishop appoints John Power, priest, archdeacon (No. 2811), and he holds the office during the remainder of the episcopate.

## Somerset Monasteries.

In the following notes on the history of the Somerset monastic houses during the episcopate of Bishop Ralph, I have omitted all references of a purely fiscal character such as the collection of tenths, taxes, and other levies, and I have also omitted, on account of the small general interest they supply to the history of the diocese, any references to the hospitals that existed in the county, such as those of S. John the Baptist at Bath, Bridgwater, Bristol and Wells, and of S. Mary Magdalene, and Holy Cross, at Bath, and S. Katharine's, Bedminster. That the great pestilence should have caused ruin to many of these houses was only natural, and the bishop's complaint, as at Keynsham, that the accounts were badly kept, may have been, to a certain extent, only a complaint in comparison to that system carried out under the several obedientiaries which he had seen in full order when he was himself a monk at Bath. The empty dormitories and the desolate fields may have thrown upon the surviving few the work which had before been distributed and kept distinct. But there were other forces at work sapping the strength of the monastic spirit and slowly encompassing its ruin. The vicious system of corrodies was essentially hostile to the general welfare and good ordering of the monastic houses, in itself certain to bring about general moral laxity within the precincts, and therefore certain to expedite the ruin of these houses. We cannot imagine such a system as possible until the early fervour of monasticism had begun to decay. In nature parasites seldom flourish where there is vigorous growth. To turn the monasteries into almshouses and to have

[1] *Wells MSS.*, pp. 80, 98, 199. [2] *Ibid.*, p. 168.

sleeping in the dormitories and eating in the refectories, unrestrained in their measure of food or sleep by any monastic rule, men who had done their work and could only boast of their great deeds in the days of old, was a cause of inevitable distraction to the professed monks, and a most harmful influence to those on probation. What mischief that garrulity must have worked on the pious aspirations of the younger monks. To allow ladies of high degree, when their husbands had gone off on some royal embassy, to spend a few months of quiet in the pleasant shelter of the nunnery—what a lowering of the authority of the prioress, what hopes and fears and recrudescence of worldly vanities among the nuns, what gossiping and scandal. Those big beds with their canopies and luxurious covers at Muchelney where the old squire spent the remainder of his days, those pleasant little supper parties at other hours than were ruled in ancient days and in other places than the refectory, with serving men to grumble and tell tales, and a well born monk to play at chess with him before he went to bed—it was all very pleasant and harmless except within the walls of a Benedictine monastery. Nor must we suppose that these paying guests or pensioners foisted on the houses by pope or king or bishop, kept themselves aloof from the controversies and ambitions of the houses where they dwelt. Was Thomas Crist, the prior of Bath, no relation to that old pensioner Richard Crist who had long enjoyed the hospitality of the house during the priorship of Crist's predecessor, Robert de Clopcot? Crist was indeed provided by the pope, but what an opening it gave for corruption and bribery! It was inevitable therefore that the monasteries should slowly become like unto almshouses and hospitals, and if the ascetic spirit had vanished, it was only natural that here and there a scandal should arise, and the bishop was forced to take action. When it occurred among the lower ranks, of course, the house itself could put a stop to it, but when the prior fell, as at Bath, the evil example must have greatly injured the monks of his obedience. Yet we must not forget that the church had at this time considerable coercive power over the monks. That unruly canon at Taunton who was sent for imprisonment and reformation of character to Bodmin, that runaway abbot of Bindon, Montacute by name, who was so chased about by the secular authorities, cases such as these prove that outwardly all was well. If the spirit was gone, there was general conformity to the rules. Of the Carthusian houses at Witham and Hinton we are told nothing. The documents concerning the foundation of Hinton were probably entered for future reference at the time when the advowson of the church was transferred to that house by the precentor Littleton as the agent of the bishop. Of

Athelney we have only the mention of the abbot as a member of a commission in reference to the priory of Stogursey.

BATH, a Benedictine priory, for the history of which see Hunt's *Two Chartularies of Bath Priory*, S.R.S., vol. vii.

Our first intimation of Bath affairs is (356) the licence which the bishop issues February 27, 1332, for the convent to elect a prior in place of Robert de Clopcot. The next month we have the confirmation (363) and commission for installation (409). In the following autumn we find (486) an arrangement made by Thomas the prior, October 23, 1332, for Robert de Sutton as prior of Dunster and his general comfort there. Mr. Hunt explains the change in that Thomas Crist had obtained a papal provision for the priorship and so annulled the election of the convent [*cf. Cal. Papal Registers*, ii, 357]. In 593 we have an acknowledgment on the part of prior Thomas of the bishop's announcement of his visitation of the monastery in September, 1333, and the following summer we find an entry (697) of the bishop's confirmation of the arrangements made for Robert de Sutton. On May 7, 1336, the bishop issues a pastoral declaring that (1075) in his efforts for the fabric fund of the cathedral church at Wells, he had no desire that the offerings of the faithful to the cathedral church of Bath should in any way be be diminished. He finds however that there has been almost a complete cessation of the offerings to Bath, and he therefore offers various indulgences to those who help the fabric fund of the church of that priory. The following month he issues (1072) another pastoral with promise of indulgences to all contributing to the help of St. John the Baptist's hospital at Bath. In July of this year (1089) the bishop also makes a grant of his lodging called Bishopsbower to the priory, since it was clearly of great advantage to the prior and convent to possess it, and of little use and great expense to himself.

In August, 1340, we have the appeal of the convent (1397) to elect a prior in place of Thomas Crist, and the ordinance (1400) arranging the details of Crist's retiring pension. The successor of Crist was John de Iford, whose moral fall is painfully shown (1962) in the letter which bishop of Worcester wrote to Bishop Ralph, August 7, 1346, asking to be allowed to proceed against Agnes Cubbet, since Hammeswell, in Gloucestershire, where she dwelt, was in his diocese. Bishop Ralph, however, had already heard of the delinquencies of the abbot, and had cited the offending woman to appear before him. What penalty was inflicted on the prior is not stated. Certainly he was not removed, and he remained in office all through the year of the pestilence and for long after.

BARLINCH, a small house of Austin Canons in the parish of Brompton

Regis, founded by William de Say about 1175, *cf.* Collinson, iii, 503. On March 6, 1347, the bishop accepts (1984) the resignation of Humphrey de Lymbiri, the prior.

BURCLE, BURTLE, or SPRAULESMEDE, a small hermitage or house of Austin Canons in the patronage of the abbey of Glastonbury, *cf.* Hobhouse's *Drok.*, p. 54. On November 25, 1343, Bishop Ralph, on whom the appointment had for the occasion devolved, appoints (1764) Robert de Cadecote as prior. On February 21, 1349, he confirms (2325) the appointment of Wm. de Fulbrok as prior, in succession to Robert de Baltesborw, deceased, and on December 31, 1362, he confirms (110*) the appointment of William Tannere in succession to William de Fulbrok on the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glastonbury.

CANNYNGTON was a priory of Benedictine nuns founded by Robert de Curci about 1138. A full account of its history is given in Hugo's *Mediæval Nunneries of Somerset.*

In the register we find the following facts concerning it. On January 20, 1330 (101), the bishop grants to Sir John Matravers his right to nominate a nun on his entry upon his diocese, and recommends to the lady prioress Alice, daughter of John de Northlode, and requests that she may be received into the convent. Three years after in June, 1333 (570), the bishop learns that the lady had not been received, and issues a mandate for her immediate reception. The convent appears to be unwilling to recognise his right or to accept his choice. On January 12, 1334, the convent obtains licence to elect a prioress (636) in place of Matilda de Morton, resigned. On October 30, 1336 (1054), the convent has licence to receive as a paying guest, Isabelle Fitchett, with one maid in attendance, and on December 14, the bishop gives (1048) a further licence for the convent to receive Joan Wason and Maud Poer, each with her maid, all until the ensuing Easter. In section (1071) there is a full account of the election in June 3, 1336, of Joan de Beare, as prioress in succession to the Lady Willelma de Blachyngdon, who was dead, and again in (1733), on August 12, 1343, we find a confirmation of Alice de Reigners as prioress. On October 8, 1351, the bishop notifies (2607) to the prioress his intention to visit the convent, and he orders the prioress and nuns to meet him in their chapter house on the Friday after S. Luke's Day. This visitation was undertaken by Canons John de Sydenhale and Nicholas de Pontesbury under a commission from the bishop, and in (2629) we find the bishop's strictures on the evidence they had laid before him. Matilda Pulham and Alice Northlode, the bishop's former nominees, are reported as given to discourse with suspected persons, and there are grave suspicions as

to the propriety of the lengthened conversation which they are wont to hold in the nave of the priory church with Richard Sompnour and Hugh Willynge, two of the convent chaplains. Certain penances are enjoined upon them, and they are bidden to take the lowest places in the chapel and in the refectory. Joanna Trimelet had fallen beyond a doubt, and was with child. She was ordered a year's incarceration. The prioress had received four ladies as sisters without licence, and £20 each had been paid for their lodging and board; moreover several corrodies had been sold without the bishop's permission. The sub-prioress was negligent in her reproof of the delinquent sisters, and was not in the habit of attending the morning offices. Such simoniacal acts and general disregard of rules and duties meets with the bishop's strong disapproval. On March 26, 1354 (2820), the bishop gave his licence to the convent to receive Isolda, wife of John Byccomb, as a paying guest till August 1.

It is said that the fair Rosamund was born at Cannyngton and brought up in this nunnery.

CLEEVE, a Cistercian monastery founded about 1188 by William de Romare, nephew of William de Romare, Earl of Lincoln. No item of contemporary events in this monastery is recorded in the register. In document (1346) we have a copy of the ordinance of the chantry at Woolavington made by the abbot of Cleeve and of the perpetual mass in the conventual church, both founded through the munificence to the abbey of Gilbert de Woolavington. The ordinance is dated November 4, 1297, and its entry here is probably the result of some inquiries made by the bishop during a visitation of that parish.

GLASTONBURY, a Benedictine monastery of the first decade of the eighth century, and the rival of S. Albans as the premier monastery of England.

We find (5) that before his consecration the bishop had recourse to a loan from the abbot on September 8, 1329. To judge from the evidence in this register it would appear as if Archbishop Mepeham's visitation had been abruptly ended by the disturbances at Glastonbury when he, with Bishop Ralph and the Abbot Sodbury, were engaged in the abbot's lodging in the matter of the visitation. The bishop's inquiry on December 10, 1331, is an interesting example of wilful ignorance on the part of the witnesses (326). The bishop constantly made use of the abbot as one of the subcollectors of tenths and other dues, and his confidence in John de Breinton is shown (1392) in choosing him for the commission to inquire into the case of the Montacute priorship and John de Henton's claim of it May 25, 1340. Two years

afterwards, October 25 and November 7, 1342, we have the record of the election and confirmation (1682, 5) of Walter de Monyngton as abbot. He had been ordained priest on September, 1336 (1032). During his terms he is said to have admitted sixty-four monks into the monastery, and the names of them are given in the copy of his *Secretum* with additions in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, R. 5, 33. He is thus described in his epitaph :—

Epitaphium Walteri de Moniton abbatis,
Extitit hic natus in villa Monitonensi
Postea prelatus in cetu Glastoniensi
In factis prudens, verbis fidus atque pudicus
Corpore menti studens ut egenus esset amicus
Abbas electus erat hic juvenilis etatis
Nunc nece dejectus habeat regnum deitatis.

On February 24, 1343, Bishop Ralph had to decide a case which was referred to him on appeal by the Papal court, where a monk, Thomas Everard, had incurred excommunication for laying violent hands on a cleric. We are expressly told that there was only a moderate effusion of blood, and Ralph on consideration absolved him from the penalty.

In the autumn of 1349 the bishop seems to have visited the monastery (2328), and on the following February he writes to the abbot in reference to those things which he had discovered to be amiss. He noticed that the night and day offices were performed without due pause and devotion, nor were the number of servers and assistants at the offices in the Lady chapel kept up to the number arranged and provided for by Abbot Adam de Sodbury. The sacrist and the elemosinarius are to find two chaplains to minister in that chapel. The abbot is to be sympathetic and affable towards the monks who may wish to consult him, and to see that the bread and ale and wine is sufficient in amount and of good quality. The alms to the poor and the hospitality to travellers are to be kept up, and the ornaments round the head of the statue of St. Dunstan are to be repaired. The rents and dues for the repairs of bridges and roads are also to be properly expended. On February 17, 1361, the bishop instructs his official to inquire into a case (14*) which appears to be one of breach of promise of marriage, Henry Brikebet escaping from Christiana Courtenay by taking the cowl.

The priory of WHITEHALL, ILCHESTER, was a house of Augustinian nuns founded about 1280 on an earlier foundation of the Dacus or Dennis family of a hospital for the reception of poor travellers and pilgrims. For a full account reference must be made to Hugo's *Nunneries of*

*Somerset.* On September 1, 1334 (701), Bishop Ralph finds it necessary to sequestrate the goods of the house on account of the incompetency of the prioress, and commits them to the custody of the rectors of Lymington and St. John, Ilchester. On August 7 of the following year we find (920) that he has once more entrusted the management of the goods of the house to the prioress, Cecilia de Draycote, but has coupled with her two sisters, Agnes Chaumpflour and Agnes de Wynterbourn, and he wrote to the rectors of Lymington and Charlton Makerel, and enjoins on them the duty of seeing that the prioress always acts in conjunction with these two. They are also to inflict penance on certain of the sisters who are reported to be in the habit of walking the streets of Ilchester by night, and even of entering the houses of suspected persons. The priory seems never to have enjoyed good discipline or to have attained anything beyond an average good character.

KEYNSHAM was an abbey of Austin Canons and of the Order of St. Victor, and was founded at the request of his son Robert, by William, earl of Gloucester, about 1170. On May 30, 1329, the house obtains a royal licence to appropriate to its use the church of High Littleton and on January 1, 1336 (974), the abbot acknowledges the assistance which Bishop Ralph had given them in obtaining this transfer, and pledges the convent to say a daily mass for his good estate during life and for his soul after death. On September 1, 1333, the bishop formally visits the house (594), and from Blackford he writes soon after to the abbot to say he considered the canons were insufficiently clothed (601). On November 27, 1336, the bishop gave his sanction to the grant by Sir Walter Rodney of the advowson of West Harptree to the abbey (1117). The estates of the convent in Ireland seem to have been a cause of constant anxiety and of little profit, and their lands in Wales had been greatly injured by floods. The royal licence for the alienation is dated May 24, 1336 (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*), and the next year on the petition of the abbey the King acknowledges, March 8, 1337, that his licence to the grant does not imply that he has any claim to the patronage of the abbey. The abbot and canons are to pay yearly 6*s.* 8*d.* to the cathedral church of Wells, 2*s.* to the archdeacon of Bath, and make proper provision for a vicar at West Harptree. A further ordinance in reference to the terms of arrangement for this vicar (1884) was issued by the bishop November 26, 1344. On February 23, 1349 (2207), John de Bradford is confirmed as abbot in succession to Nicholas de Taunton, who had held the office certainly since 1313 (*cf. Cal. Pat. Rolls*, March 4, 1313). On February 14, 1350, the bishop writes to draw the attention of the abbot and canons to the neglect they displayed in reference to the keeping of the abbey

gates. The ornaments of the church and the valuables of the house could easily be stolen. At the hour of refection lay folk were allowed to enter the refectory instead of being rigidly excluded. There were too many servants to do the work of one, and the bishop lays down certain rules for the ordering of the work of the kitchen, the cellars and the infirmary, and the cook is to send in a more regular account of expenditure to the abbot. The canons are not to keep dogs, particularly sporting dogs, and when they go forth to work they are not to eat and drink till they return to the monastery. No lands or tenements of the monastery are to be let out in perpetual copyhold. The nightly offices are to be said more regularly, and with due intervals and greater devotion. Since John de Wamberge's death would be a great loss to the abbey, he is at once (2327) to be removed from being chamberlain of the monastery, and a fit canon is to be chosen in his place. The bishop in this visitation had already removed him, but had allowed him to continue for the time. On January 26, 1353, the bishop again wrote to the abbot and canons in reference to what he had seen amiss during "his late visitation." Since the year of the pestilence there was a general neglect on the part of the abbot and other obedientiars and the *conversi* who had the management of the Tannery, Smithy, Barton and Vineyards to draw up and to present to the convent a proper account of receipts and expenditure. The keepers of the outer doors were negligent of their duty, and laymen and women were allowed to enter the monastery at unlawful hours. The canons do not observe at the proper times the rule of silence. All the officers are to produce accounts of their administration by the ensuing Easter. The charities for the poor bequeathed by Gilbert, late earl of Gloucester, seem to have been altogether abolished. (There is an inspeximus of this grant of Gilbert de Clare, *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, March 13, 1336.) Not a third of the convent is in the habit of assembling in the refectory at the hours for meals, and two-thirds of the convent have their meals at other times and in other places. The camerarius does not pay his debt to the convent, the bread is inferior in quality and there is an irregular distinction made in food between the old and the young canons. The title deeds and charters of the abbey are to be kept in a chest secured by three keys, of which one is to be held by the abbot, another by the sub-prior, and the third by canon John Wamberge. The canons are not to associate with those enjoying corrodies or to play games with them. John Tankard, Robert Grindere and John Twynere, shepherds, are accused of stealing bread in large quantities and selling some of it outside. Edmund, the servitor of the chamberlain, is very inefficient, to the injury of the convent. The chantry of John Seymour

is to be kept up, and John Golynge is to be removed from being the servitor of the infirmary.

MONTACUTE, the only Cluniac priory in Somerset. For its history *cf.* vol. viii. Som. Record Society.

In 1331 we find that an action was brought by the dean and chapter of Wells (*Cal. Pat. Rolls*, p. 201) against Guichard the prior and the convent of Montacute, on account of their conduct in throwing down a wall and bank at North Curry, and so exposing the chapter lands to the inundations of the Tone. On May 25, 1340, Bishop Ralph orders a commission to inquire (1392) into the election of John de Henton as prior in succession to Guichard. John de Henton, however, failed to prove that Guichard was disloyal or incompetent. Henton was a Benedictine monk of Sherborne.

MUCHELNEY ABBEY was a Benedictine House, founded by King Athelstan about 939, and was always in the patronage of the crown.

On January 24, 1330, we find (98) the bishop giving authority to Canon Walter de Hull to absolve Henry de Eastcammel, a monk of Muchelney who was excommunicate. Nothing is told us as to the nature of the act which brought this punishment upon him, but we find him afterwards as chosen by the convent with Henry de Brugge to take the news on June 21, 1334, of the death of abbot John de Henton to Edward III, and obtain his licence for the election of a successor. On December 10, 1332, the bishop asks the convent to grant (504), a corrody to William le Iressch, a small squire. The name occurs on two or three occasions, and a certain Margaret la Iressch was living in Badgworth this very year. In (690) we find the confirmation of the bishop to the election of John de Somerton as abbot, July 19, 1334. The King's licence had been obtained June 21, his consent to the choice July 8, and the temporalities restored July 24, *Cal. Pat. Rolls*, 8 Edward III, pp. 551, 559, 567. Soon after this appointment Bishop Ralph visited the monastery, and on July 10, 1335, he issued his strictures on those things which he found amiss and in need of reform (788). He discovered that the church was in great need of repair, and he orders the abbot and convent to undertake all that was necessary without delay under penalty of 100 shillings. In the convent itself general laxity prevailed, but no serious breach of morality is reported. The bishop was shocked at the luxury which abounded. On the tables in the refectory he noticed costly and magnificent vessels, and in the dormitories some of the monks occupied fine and luxurious beds with tabernacles over them. Some too had private chambers, and ate their meals apart. Nor was there any sufficient check on the monks from walking or riding abroad and without

companions. Visits from the outside world were not restrained, and women and impudent girls were wont to gather in the cloister garth. Moreover the smithy and other workshops were too near the infirmary. The bishop orders that trustworthy monks are to be placed in charge of the doors, who are not to allow unlicensed people to enter, and the smithy is to be so placed that the sick do not hear the beating of the hammer.

On October 31, 1338, the bishop orders a guilty monk, John de Worthy, to be sent for strict confinement to the prior and convent of Bath (1303), and they are to assign him a separate chamber. His diet and religious discipline are also specified. But it would appear from (1315) that the order was not for some reason carried out, for the bishop on January 15, 1339, reproves the abbot and convent of Muchelney for holding converse with John de Worthy, and definitely forbids it in the future. On May 29, 1350, the Royal Assent to the election of Thomas de Overton the prior as abbot is (2359) entered on the register.

NUNS BARROW or MYNCHIN BARROW, a small Benedictine priory for women, founded by Eva de Gournay about 1228, in the parish of Barrow Gurney. All that is known about it is related in full in Hugo's *Nunneries of Somerset.* As at Cannyngton, Bishop Ralph claims the right on his entrance into the diocese to nominate a sister on the establishment, and in (141) writes to the prioress to admit Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Hamon fiz Richard, knight, and to make her a nun. On June 17, 1340, the prioress, Basilia de Sutton, died (*cf.* Hobhouse's *Drok.* p. 294), and we have an account (1398) of the election on August 12 of her successor, Juliana de Groundy, the permission of the patron, Sir Thomas Berkeley, having been previously sought and obtained. Bishop Ralph confirms their choice, and again (2048) on October 20, 1348, he confirms the election of Agnes Balun as prioress.

STAVORDALE, a small house of Austin Canons, founded before 1249 by the Lovels of Castle Cary, and in 1533 transferred to the priory of Taunton.

In (577) we have an account of the election and confirmation of Henry de Nymesfield, July 24, 1333, as prior in the place of William de Nymesfield, deceased, and in (49*) we find Bishop Ralph confirming on November 3, 1361, the election of John de Wincanton as prior in the room of John Bodman, deceased.

STOKECOURCY or STOGURSEY, a Benedictine priory founded by William de Falaise (Collinson i, 250), and attached to the monastery of S. Mary, L'Onlay, in the diocese of Seez, Normandy. On October 7, 1332, Bishop Ralph grants (461) the prior Godfrey licence to absent himself from his priory in order that he may visit the abbot of S. Mary in Normandy

and again the next year he has a similar licence (591) to absent himself until the feast of S. Nicholas, December 6. In (696) we have an inhibition issued by the Court of Arches to Ralph on the appeal of this same Godfrey who has resented Ralph's inquiries as to the general mismanagement of the property of the priory. The inhibition is addressed to the prior of Taunton and the abbot of Athelney, and is dated August 7, 1334. On September 12, 1350, William Hodierne is admitted (2401) as prior on the resignation of Thomas Le Prevost, and on January 7, 1351, John Gallardi is admitted (2509) on the resignation of William Hodierne.

TAUNTON was a priory of Austin Canons founded by Walter Giffard, Bishop of Winchester about 1115. On April 10, 1339, Bishop Ralph issues an episcopal letter (1128) in which he offers various indulgences to all assisting to complete the fabric of the conventual church of S. Mary, Taunton. Robert de Merryngham was elected prior May 5, 1339, in succession to Ralph de Colmstoke resigned, and *senio confractus*, and we find a full account of the proceedings (1332). Documents (1942, 51, 63) record the election of Thomas Coke as prior April 6, 1346, and in No. 2* we have a full account of the election of Walter Grateleye as prior in succession to Thomas de Pederton, deceased, January 12, 1362. On September 29, 1353, we find the bishop removing for stricter custody into the hands of the prior and convent of St. Germans, Cornwall, Canon Robert Cundyt, whose evil life was causing harm at Taunton. The bishop had discovered in his late visitation of the house that he, as obedientiar, had been disobedient to the prior, wasteful of the goods of the priory, and guilty of immorality. His rebellious conduct made his removal necessary to the good order of the house.

## THE MENDIP FOREST QUESTION.

As the population of England increased and more land was brought into cultivation, the limits of the great forests that covered the country were gradually reduced. From the time of the Norman Conquest all these tracts of wild country were regarded as peculiarly crown land, and the assizes and charters of the forests in the reign of Henry II, John and Henry III, show us how much the nobles, and England generally, resented the action of the crown in excluding them from the privilege of hunting in these districts. In Somerset there were five royal forests, *i.e.*, those of Mendip, North Petherton, Selwood, Exmoor and Neroche. On the borders of the forest of Mendip there were two royal manors of very

great antiquity. They carry us back to days when Somerset saw a good deal of the Kings of Wessex. The royal manor of Cheddar and the smaller manor of Axbridge came into the hands of Bishop Jocelyn by purchase from Hugh of Wells, bishop of Lincoln in 1229,[1] for the payment of a fee-farm rent of £20 yearly to the crown. About the same time the larger manor of Congresbury was obtained from the crown by Bishop Jocelyn,[2] with permission to disafforest and enclose, and the bishop bound himself and his successors to pay for the whole a fee-farm rent of £54 yearly. This rent was granted by the crown from time to time to various connections.[3] It was part of the dowry of Margaret of France, wife of Edward I, and afterwards Edmund, earl of Kent, the half brother of Edward II,[4] held it until his attainder, when Margaret his widow held it in the name of her son Edmund. Then it was granted to Edward de Bohun,[5] and later to his widow Margaret, and generally it was used as a means of providing relatives of the crown with an income until they were otherwise provided for. Up to the time of Bishop Ralph the manors of Cheddar and Axbridge were within the borders of the forest of Mendip, and it is evident that the bishop and the crown held different views as to what the bishop's rights within these manors really were. It must also be remembered that there were other manors at Cheddar and that the tenants of these smaller manors would probably claim the privileges on the forest edge allowed to the bishop's tenants and that they would also resent any encroachments on the part of the bishop's tenants which might be a detriment to themselves. On October 22, 1332, the bishop appointed (464) John de Leftwych his bailiff at Cheddar. This was probably in view of a more vigorous assertion of the bishop's claims. Already on August 1, 1332, the bishop had written to Robert de Cotes, the vicar of Cheddar, informing him of the constitution[6] of Archbishop Mepeham against the violation of ecclesiastical property, and bidding him to publish this in the parish church. Cotes writes on August 25 to say that he has done so and finds (465) that John atte Boure, Thomas Gylemyn, John Champyon and John their servant are under grave suspicion. Again on November 13, Cotes writes (481) that he finds Matthew Pecche and Robert Boxe guilty by report of robbing the manors of Axbridge and Cheddar, and John Champyon, John Knight, and Simon le Forester guilty in fact. The same day the bishop, who seems to have been at Banwell,

[1] Collinson, iii, 575. *Fine Rolls*, 14 H. III, memb. 6. [2] *Adam de Domerham*, ii, 493.
[3] *C. Patent Rolls*, 27 E. I, p. 451; 3 E. II, p. 217. [4] *Ibid.*, March 21, 1331, p. 99.
[5] *Ibid.*, May 28, 1335, p. 109. [6] Council at S. Paul's, A.D. 1328. Item, omnes qui de domibus, &c. Lyndwood, App. p. 41.

writes to the vicars of Winscombe, Shipham, Rowberrow, Axbridge, Compton and Cheddar, and informs them that John Champyon, John Knight and Clement le Forester (*sic*) are ipso facto excommunicate. They with Pecche and Boxe are to appear before the bishop or his commissary the first lawday after November 30, 1332. Pecche was the hereditary forester of the royal forests of Somerset, and lived at Newton-Forester in North Petherton, and the mention of his name is an indication that Bishop Ralph was determined to assert his rights over that part of the forest of Mendip which was his as being part of the manors of Cheddar and Axbridge. On November 24, Pecche, Boxe, Knight, Champyon and Clement appear at Banwell, and are heard, but judgment was postponed, and they have days assigned them for appearing separately. Having submitted, they are apparently absolved, and are enjoined certain penances (490). On December 1, the bishop wrote to the dean of Wells, and the vicar of Cheddar and rector of Axbridge, to inflict specified penance on John le Champyon, John le Knyght and Clement le Forester (497), and shortly afterwards he hears from Axbridge and Cheddar that the two latter have gone through their punishment. Meanwhile Matthew Pecche was engaged in bringing down the head forester, Sir Robert de Ufford, who, through Pecche, issues a notice that he desires to meet all foresters and servants attached to the forest at Axbridge on Monday after December 13, 1332 (509), and on January 30 of the following year the King wrote to Bishop Ralph (837) forbidding him to attempt anything to the prejudice of the King's servants. He had heard that Pecche, the chief forester, had cut oaks in the forest of Mendip without the view of the bishop's forester, and had been excommunicated, and hence the prohibition. Thus apparently the matter ended for the time. Two years later an inquisition *ad quod damnum* was held in reference to the bishop's application to enclose and cultivate sixty acres of waste in his wood of Cheddar in the forest of Mendip. This does not seem to have met with the approval of the local people, for on the complaint of the bishop a commission was issued September 24, 1337,[1] to try Sir John de Acton, John, son of William Fitzwalter, John Padok, Simon Ralegh, John, son of Henry le Forester, on a charge of having broken into the bishop's houses and closes at Cheddar, and a further attempt to pacify the neighbourhood was made on October 3, 1337, when in accordance with the statute of Northampton, Thomas de Berkele, Richard Lovel, Walter de Rodneye, Joceus de Bayous and Hildebrand de London were ordered to go to Cheddar and proclaim the statute, and declare the bishop's

[1] *C. Patent Rolls*, 11 E. III, p. 514.

right to enclose, disafforest, and bring into cultivation his manor of Cheddar.[1]

On March 13, 1338, Robert atte Boxe appears before the bishop in the chapel of his palace at Wells, and swears he will not aid or favour knowingly John de Acton *miles* against the bishop or his officials or ministers. *Cf.* Reynold's *Wells*, p. 160.

Afterwards on February 14, 1339, a commission of inquiry was instituted by Prince Edward, duke of Cornwall (1436), on the complaint of Bishop Ralph that Sir John de Acton and others had done damage to the extent of 200 marks to the bishop's property at Axbridge, Cheddar, Stoke Giffard, Westbury and Wells.

It was not however until after the royal commission of 1343 with the Earl of Devon at the head that the matter was finally settled, the manors of Axbridge and Cheddar were disafforested, and the bishop's courts, leet and baron were formally established at Wells, Axbridge and Cheddar.

## The Bishop's Visitations.

The first year of Bishop Ralph's episcopate was entirely occupied in the effort, prolonged, expensive and persevered in, to propitiate the Roman Court. He could not, as he told the diocese, visit it with honour, and therefore he did not come to Somerset at all. What those negociations were and what they cost him in money paid down and in benefices promised to the relations of those whom he desired to interest in his cause we can only imagine from the poverty which he often pleads in the earlier years of his episcopate, and in the King's clerks and others who gain benefices and prebends in the diocese. It was not till July, 1331, that he first entered Wells as its bishop. Writing from his manor of Oxted in Surrey on June 27, he informs the dean that it is his intention[2] to visit the cathedral church and all its clergy on the Wednesday after the feast of S. Mary Magdalen, *i.e.*, July 22, and he sends to the prior[3] a similar announcement of his intention to visit the cathedral church of Bath on the Monday after the feast of S. James, July 25. We may assume then that he visited the two cathedral churches of his diocese, and his movements during that autumn would also suggest that his visitation was of a more extended character. We find him in the Axbridge, Frome, Merston, Dunster and Cary deaneries, and certainly in parishes where there was no episcopal manor,[4] and his notice to the diocese

[1] *C. Patent Rolls*, 11 E. III, p. 578. [2] No. 266. [3] No. 267. [4] No. 308.

in which he informs his clergy that the archbishop's action did not in any way suspend his own ordinary jurisdiction seems to suggest that at least a hasty and interrupted visitation was proceeding. It is certain, however, that the bishop's plans must have been greatly interfered with by Archbishop Mepeham's decision to visit the diocese in person, though if we regard the matter from the archbishop's conviction of his responsibility, there was great reason for it. Already in the Rochester diocese Mepeham had discovered much to reprove. The licences for absence had been given in a very lavish manner, and in Somerset there had been no bishop for nearly two years. But the time chosen was certainly inopportune. The bishop had not been in the diocese a month when he received a notice[1] from the archbishop dated from Frampton, July 24, ordering him to cite all to attend with him at Wells on the Monday after the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, *i.e.*, September 14, and the bishop's itinerary shows that he was at Wells about this time. We know however nothing as to what occurred, except what can be gathered from the inquisition at Wells[2] and Glastonbury, which is amusing and not a little interesting. This and the appeal which the bishop made against the manner of the visitation[3] tends to show how unwelcome the archbishop's visit was to Bishop Ralph and the diocese at large.

In 1333, however, the bishop seems to have held a general visitation of the diocese. He began at Wells about September 8,[4] Bath, September 14, and Keynsham the following day, and at the same time he issues a general notice[5] to warn the diocese of the approaching visitation. On September 20 he sends notice to the rural dean of Axbridge of his intention to visit that deanery, taking about four parishes at a time in one of the parish churches. In the same manner he proposed to go over the whole diocese,[6] and he issued his notices to the rural deans accordingly.

Three years afterwards he began another visitation, notifying his intention to the archdeacon of Wells in a letter from Banwell, August 21, 1336, and on January 13, 1337, it seems to have been still in progress, for he finds it necessary to write to the archdeacons of Wells and Bath or their officials, forbidding them from any kind of interference. This visitation was broken into by a visit the bishop paid to London in the spring, and his inquiries at Wells through the dean in December of this year suggest that his tour of inspection was brought to a close by a visitation of the cathedral church.[7]

[1] No. 274. [2] Nos. 325, 326. [3] No. 416. [4] Nos. 592, 593, 594. [5] No. 595.
[6] No. 600. [7] *Wells Cath. MSS.*, p. 137.

From this date we have no evidence, with the exception of an occasional inquiry at Wells, of any visitation until we come to the autumn of the year 1349. On November 11 of that year he met with serious opposition at Yeovil, and his procession to the parish church for vespers was scattered by a violent attack of some of the parishioners.[1] The cause of the disturbance is not stated,[2] but the time was certainly inopportune. Yeovil had suffered much from the plague, and so costly a visit as that of the bishop and his suite was probably most unwelcome. The names of the delinquents suggest that they were small tradespeople and artizans, and the bishop's arrival, following as it did the late announcement of the Statute of Labourers, may have made some of them fearful of its punishments. We have, however, no further evidence concerning this visitation either as to extent or the time the bishop took over it. He was certainly at Wyveliscombe all through the early spring of the ensuing year, 1350, but in the autumn of that year he seems to have gone about a good deal in the northern part of the diocese.

There is only one other notice of a visitation, the extent of which is left to conjecture. In a document referring to the sequestration of Sutton Montacute, December 9, 1353, it is referred to as at the late visitation,[3] and we may reasonably conclude that at least the archdeaconry of Wells had been visited in the autumn of that year.

A visitation in those days, whether episcopal or archidiaconal, was a cause of considerable expense to a parish. In 1338 we find Bishop Ralph laying down a definite list of charges[4] when he came to dedicate a church, and in the same year he writes to the deans[5] of the Wells archdeaconry, and limits the attendants of the archdeacon. The next year when he had apparently written a similar letter to the deans of the Taunton archdeaconry,[6] archdeacon Hereward appealed to the Roman Curia.

## Ordinations and Confirmations.

There are six references to ordinations of which five belong to the period before he had come to his diocese, and therefore before the register of ordination had been definitely set up. There can be little doubt that as usual he held his ordination himself on the Ember Saturdays, and that when he was too feeble to perform it, the duty was carried out by his suffragan bishop John de Langebridge. In Advent, 1329, by permission of the bishop of Salisbury, he holds an ordination in the conventual

[1] Nos. 2301–8. [2] Nos. 2322–4. [3] No. 2786. [4] No. 1197. [5] No. 1306 [6] No. 1404.

church at Reading.[1] In Lent, 1330, he holds an ordination by permission of the bishop of Winchester[2] in his private chapel at Dogmersfield, and he commissioned the bishop of Llandaff to hold an ordination in the diocese of Bath and Wells in the following May.[3] The following October he held an ordination at Andover, and on S. Thomas'[4] Day, when on the eve of his departure to Avignon, he ordained in his private chapel at Oxted.[5] Once again, in 1350, we have a reference to an ordination that was held in September of that year at Axbridge.[6] There is but one intimation of a confirmation, and that only incidentally through a statement of punishment[7] inflicted on Walter de Chilterns for causing a disturbance at Sutton Montacute during a confirmation in February, 1336.

## The Office of Præpositus in the Cathedral Church of Wells.

The provostry or wardenship in the cathedral church demands our attention on several occasions during the episcopate of Bishop Ralph. It is an office to which we would have preferred the name wardenship rather than provostry, because the latter name tends to cause confusion in reference to the exact position in the cathedral body which the holder of the office enjoyed. There were two provosts of Wells, an earlier and a later, and the position of these two offices differed very considerably. The earlier provost was the highest dignity under the bishop, ruling the canons in a way that an abbot ruled his monks, but also being himself subject, without any conditions, to the ordering of the bishop. In this position he would have the management of the estates of the church as well as the ruling of the canons and in the development of the idea of the privileges and duties of an obedientiar during the twelfth century, the office of præpositus became one of some considerable emolument. So the selfish instincts of the provost tended to make him careful in the management of the estates, prompted him to parsimony towards the canons, and induced him to regard as his own any special profits that he may have gained as warden of the endowments. The church is referred to in the charter of Bishop Robert as oppressed and immeasurably afflicted by the conduct of the provost. So Bishop Robert in 1136 founds the office of dean, a canon who was to be the spiritual head of the chapter, a distinct prælatura with cure of souls. And thus the old provostship sank

[1] No. 59. [2] No. 162. [3] No. 182. [4] No. 251. [5] No. 252. [6] No. 2396. [7] No. 989.

down to the wardenship of estates, an office not necessarily spiritual, and therefore an office which might be held by a layman. In fact there is a distinct break in the continuity, and Bishop Robert's ordination abolished the older provost as head of the chapter of Wells. We next come to the ordination of the provostry or wardenship of Bishop Jocelyn in 1234. It was quite distinct from the office of treasurer whose functions appertained to the ornaments of the church. Owing to the absence of the canons at Wells each estate was naturally looked after and managed in their name by a local bailiff. In reference therefore to two of these estates, Combe and Winsham, Jocelyn created the office of warden, the office of a man who should manage these estates for the advantage of the church and the particular good of the canons. It was distinctly laid down that the office was not a dignity attached to the church; it was in no way a prælatura, nor was there any cure of souls attached to it. This then was the exact position of the later provost. He was a prebendary, but he was not a canon. He was the servant of the church, but he was not a member of the chapter. Of course, there was nothing to prevent a canon holding this office, but the office itself did not create the holder in any way a dignitary of the church. It is thus we find it at the beginning of Bishop Ralph's episcopate. The office was held by Alan de Conesburgh. The year of his appointment seems uncertain. The vicious system of papal provision was the cause of much strife and uncertainty as to the holders of benefices. The successful applicant at Avignon was appointed to a canonry with the right to succeed to the first prebend that came vacant. Until he succeeded he was distinctly an honorary canon with the dignity of a canon, but without a voice or a place in the chapter. These provisions were given with a lavish hand, and the papal nominees strove with one another for the vacant endowment. But another fact about the system tended to increase the strife. The applicant at the papal curia might gain provisions for several canonries without applying for a dispensation as a pluralist. The constitution of Pope Gregory did not refer to canonries that were devoid of prebends, and therefore as the prebends fell in for which the papal nominee was waiting, he took his choice and left the others for the many who were engaged in a like research for endowment. Thus everywhere men were on the watch for a vacancy, and at times claimed an office before the former holder had substantiated his claim to such other office, the possession of which rendered the former one vacant. Our first notice of Alan de Conesburgh is as a clerk in the service of William de Melton, who in 1326[1] went to Avignon to obtain for

[1] *Cal. Papal Letters*, ii, 250.

the archbishop of York a second pall, his first having been stolen from his chapel in London. In 1328,[1] he is referred to as canon of Wells and provided with the prebend of Yatton, but in 1330 he is again, at the request of the archbishop of York provided with a canonry at York with reservation of a prebend since he has not been able to gain possession of the prebend of Yatton.[2] He is next referred to in Bishop Ralph's *Register* as warden or provost of Wells (435), and the wardenship is in sequestration August 27, 1332, because Alan de Conesburgh has not paid the debt due from the office to the subsidy to the pope from the vacant benefices and again on September 5 the post is referred to (439) as under sequestration. This seems to suggest that Conesburgh had seized upon the prebend as the first that came vacant, and it almost suggests that he claimed exemption from the subsidy in that the office was not of the nature of a benefice. Thus we have the anomalous position of a man who is an honorary canon by papal provision, and who holds a prebend attached to the cathedral church which does not make the holder a member of the chapter. After this it becomes somewhat difficult to trace the possession of this office. In 1333, July 29, we find in the *Cal. Papal Letters* that Robert de Taunton, one of Edward iii's clerks, obtains a provision for a canonry and prebend at York though he holds the sinecure provostship of Wells, and the next year, March 10, we find (751) that the King had conferred this office already on Peter de Berkeley claiming the patronage through the cession falling in during the vacancy of the see in the time of Edward i. Bishop Ralph does not allow the claim, and Berkeley appeals to Canterbury. The next spring, January 31, 1335, the King formally confers the post by patent on Berkeley, and Berkeley carries his case to Avignon. On April 20, 1335, Bishop Ralph appoints Roger de Brikebeke, his proctor (786) at Avignon in reference to this case. The bishop is also summoned to appear (910 and 1024) at the King's Court at York, where Edward intends to have his right to present legally argued June 6, 1335, and the following May we find that Edward has recovered his right and demands of Bishop Ralph to admit his nominee as warden (1011). Meanwhile a much more important controversy was going on under the direction of the papal curia concerning Alan de Conesburgh. It is evident that Berkeley dropt his appeal at Rome, and the King ceased to press his demand on Bishop Ralph. But Conesburgh finds in Taunton a formidable opponent. Each was in possession of a papal provision. The issue of the trial we find in the register of John Grandisson, bishop

[1] *Cal. Papal Letters*, ii, 267, 272. [2] *Ibid.*, 306.

of Exeter, fol. 188 and 199.[1] Bishop Grandisson does not appear to have had anything to do with the settlement of the case, but he is appointed "a sede apostolica specialiter deputatus" sequestrator of the fruits of the wardenship until the case is tried. Grandisson appoints two commissions May 9, 1335, and May 29, 1336, first of the prior of Taunton, and Walter Merieth, chancellor of Exeter, and secondly of Richard de Wideslade and William de Nassington, canons of Exeter, to look after the sequestration, and in his ordinance appointing them he relates what has taken place. In his first account he says that he has received apostolic letters dated July 5, 1334, through J. de Denckesworthe, procurator of Magr. Alan de Conesburgh, describing himself as provost of the cathedral church of Wells. Conesburgh's petition to the papal curia related that a dispute had arisen between himself and R. de Taunton concerning the provostship. Alan had been provided by the pope, and had long possessed it, and Robert had rashly deprived him of it, and had acquired the fruits of it, and declared he had a lawful right to it. The case had been heard and judgment with costs had been given to Alan and an order drawn out for his restitution. Of this first trial, however, no details are given, and against it Robert appealed, and Alan demanded that since the office of provost had been unjustly held for nearly three years by Robert, it should be sequestrated, and this was done according to the constitution of Clement V. Alan further declares he dare not enter the city of Wells. So Grandisson is to see that the office is sequestrated until the matter was settled. This was accordingly done, but was removed in 1336, since Alan had obtained his judgment on appeal against his opponent, and had acquired the right to hold the provostry. Then it follows that on October 23, 1340, Conesburgh is recognised by Bishop Ralph as provost, and is allowed (1409) to exchange the post with John de Sancto Paulo. In the *Wells Chapter MSS.*, p. 105, we learn that the exchange took place in the manorial chapel at Evercreech, and that the bishop had recited at the time the terms of Bishop Jocelyn's ordination uniting the wardens of Combe, Chard and Wellington with that of Winsham.

The next year John de S. Paul demands, February 28, 1341, the canonry of Combe iii, which had fallen vacant, and which (1652) the bishop had conferred on John de Sutton, and John de S. Paul appealed to Canterbury against the bishop. The official of Canterbury called upon the chapter to give evidence on the complaint that the bishop will not interpret the meaning of the ordinance already made. (*Wells*

[1] *Cf.* Hingeston-Randolph's *Reg.*, J. Grandisson, pp. 783, 784, 815, 832.

*MSS.*, p. 107.) The dean and chapter in 1342 reply that they have searched the registers and there is no evidence to support the interpretation placed upon the ordinance by the appellant. No præpositus held a prebend until Robert de Haselshaw who held Wyveliscombe. Alan de Conesburgh held none. When Robert de Taunton was associated with Alan he held Wyveliscombe, but he died during the course of a lawsuit with Alan, and they know no more.

The matter thus apparently dropt, and we find Bishop Ralph appointing (13*) during a vacancy of the office on February 16, 1361, John Wiggemore to the church of Wellington.

In 1390, however, the matter again came up, and the archbishop of Canterbury wrote to the dean and chapter (*W. MSS.*, 129) for information. The question had been raised in the King's Court whether the holder of the provostship could hold a benefice, and the Court applied to the archbishop because the bishop of Bath and Wells was a party to the suit. The King also wrote direct to the dean and chapter on the same matter. The reply was that the provost need not be a priest nor a resident, nor have a cure of souls or any spiritual jurisdiction, nor has he any voice in the chapter, nor any right of entry by reason of his office. They give a list of holders from John de Sancto Paulo, who was archdeacon of Cornwall, down to Walter Trelond, rector of Christian Malford.

It is thus clear that up to that date the provost was not a dignitary of the cathedral church, nor did his office give him any claim on a vacant canonry, and it is also evident that the office was often held by clerics, who were possessed of canonries or held dignities in other churches and dioceses. The office, however, was one of some considerable value and it was advisable that the holder should be attached in some way to Wells, so that he should be compelled to reside there for some time each year. This condition could only be attained by making the provost a canon, and so we find that Bishop Bubwith (February 20, 1421) appoints William Skelton to the provostship and to the prebend of Combe xii. This is the first double appointment of this kind. In 1409, John Macclesfield was appointed provost, but no reference is made to any appointment to a canonry or prebend with dignity. On February 4, 1450, the post is again vacant through the death of Richard Hore, and Bishop Beckington appoints a commission to consider the question, *i.e.*, John Bernard, John Stokes, John Trevenant, and John Haydore, and on April 13, 1450, John Trevenant, already a canon, was appointed provost. The next vacancy was in 1457, March 9, when John Garnesey, capellanus, and afterwards Beckington's Receiver-General, was appointed provost of

Wells, with the prebend of Combe xii annexed. From this date these two posts are always held together, and the provost enters the chapter as prebendary of Combe xii. It is clear then, as Bishop Stubbs has shown in his remarks on Jocelyn's ordinance, that the later provostship was an endowed post without dignity, and was something quite different to the post of the earlier provosts who in the name of the bishops ruled the chapter previous to 1136.

There is an interesting account in Reynold's *Wells*, pp. 163–7, of the appointment of Richard Worthington as provost and prebendary of Combe xii, and his irregular admission by Canon Hugh Sugar, the treasurer, April 19, 1487. It does not, however, affect what has been said above.

The following is the text of Bishop Jocelyn's ordination of the provostship[1]:—

"ORDINATIO PRÆPOSITURÆ WELLENSIS.

"Omnibus sanctæ matris Ecclesiæ filiis ad quos præsens scriptum pervenerit, Jocelinus Dei Gratia Bathoniensis Episcopus salutem in Domino. Cum fuissent in Ecclesia Wellensi duæ præpositurae, scilicet *una de Comba* quæ consistebat in Manerio et Ecclesia de Cumba, et Ecclesiis de Cerde et Wellington cum pertinentiis; et *alia de Wynsham*, quæ consistebat in Manerio et Ecclesia de Wynesham cum pertinentiis, quæ quidem præpositurae *nec dignitates nec prælaturæ fuerunt*, sed oneris officia, nos postea tempore præcedente ex multis rerum argumentis, tenuitatem dictæ præpositurae de Wynesham frequenter experti, certissime comperimus dictam præposituram de Wynesham ad onera ipsius præpositurae annexa sustinenda non sufficere. Unde prædictæ insufficientiæ volentes remedium adhibere, præhabita super hoc pluries provida deliberatione, data demum super hoc opportunitate, præposituram de Wynesham adjunximus præpositurae de Combe, ipsasque de consensu Capituli nostri de Wells univimus, ordinantes et statuentes de ejusdem Capituli consensu, ut dicta præpositura sic unita sit *sine qualibet cura animarum, et quod non sit dignitas vel prælatura aliquis*, sed tantum officium oneris inferius eidem præpositurae impositi, et ut ille cui nos, vel successores nostri dictam præposituram contulerimus, habeat et possideat omnia quæ prius ad dictas duas præposituras pertinebant, et omnia onera eisdem prius annexa sustineat. Consistet autem dicta præposi-

[1] I have to thank the Bishop of Oxford for allowing me to use his transcript of Jocelyn's Ordination.

tura in subscriptis ; videlicet, in maneriis de Cumba et de Wynesham, cum pertinentiis, et ecclesiis de Cumba, de Wynesham, de Cerde et de Wellington cum pertinentiis, hoc excepto, quod de Ecclesia de Wellington retinuimus ad opus nostrum et successorum nostrorum quandam terram cum alneto quæ dicitur Pristeley, et quoddam parvum pratum quod dicitur Spurtemeade. quæ sunt infra ambitum bosci nostri ibidem ; ita quod in eadem Ecclesia de Wellington sit in perpetuum perpetuus Vicarius, cujus Vicaria consistet in omnibus minutis decimis legatis et obventionibus altarium, tam de Bokeland quam de Welinton, et in decimis molendinorum et fœni, exceptis decimis fœni de dominico nostro, et decimis fœni de dominico Gereberti militis de Wellinton et hæredum suorum. Assignata est etiam ipsi Vicariæ domus quædam cum area competenti ex Australi parte ecclesiæ de Wellinton, et alia domus cum area competenti ex Orientali parte ecclesiæ de Bokelande.

" Item in Ecclesia de Cerde erit in perpetuum perpetuus Vicarius, cujus Vicaria consistet in omnibus minutis decimis legatis et obventionibus altarium, tam matricis Ecclesiæ quam Capellarum, et decimis fœni, exceptis decimis fœni de dominico nostro, et decimis molendinorum, et reddet inde annuatim idem Vicarius præposito qui pro tempore fuerit tres marcas annuas, scilicet ad quatuor anni terminos, scilicet in Nativitate Dominica x$^{s}$, in festo Paschæ x$^{s}$, in festo Sancti Johannis Baptistæ x$^{s}$, et in festo Sancti Michaelis x$^{s}$. Remanebunt autem præposito ibidem omnes garbæ tam in curtilagiis quam in exterioribus culturis, et Chesett, et truncus annuatim percipiendus de bosco nostro ibidem. Assignata est autem ipsi Vicariæ domus quædam cum area competenti ex orientali parte Cimiterii ex opposito Curiæ ejusdem præpositi, ex qua parte areæ versus Curiam præpositi non licebit Vicario domum aliquam sive aliquam aperturam habere de novo. Vicariam vero de Cerde et Vicariam de Wellinton dabimus nos et successores nostri, quoties vacaverint.

" In ecclesia autem de Cumba erit in perpetuum perpetuus Vicarius, qui habebit nomine Vicariæ omnes minutas decimas legata et obventiones altarium, tam matricis ecclesiæ quam Capellæ de Waterlestun, exceptis decimis agnorum. Spectant etiam ad ipsam Vicariam garbæ fabarum de Curtilagiis et decimæ fœni totius parochiæ præterquam de dominico præpositi, de cujus dominico nullas percipiet Vicarius decimas. Assignata est etiam ipsi Vicariæ domus quædam cum area competenti, ex Australi parte viæ quæ ducit versus Stantun.

" In Ecclesia vero de Wynsham erit in perpetuum perpetuus Vicarius, cujus Vicaria consistet in omnibus minutis decimis legatis et obventionibus altarium, exceptis omnimodis decimis de domo et dominico præpositi de quibus nullas omnino habebit decimas Vicarius, quod si Vicaria de Cumba

non valeat annuatim quinque marcas ad firmam, deductis omnibus oneribus ordinariis, retinuimus nobis et successoribus nostris potestatem ordinandi et taxandi de bonis ipsius præposituræ quod ipsa tantum valeat annuatim. Quoties vicarias de Cumba et Wynesham vacare contigerit, ad eas præsentabit nobis et successoribus nostris viros idoneos a nobis instituendos, qui pro tempore fuerit præpositus.

"Item vicarii ecclesiarum prædictarum de Wellinton, de Cerde, de Cumba, et de Wynesham habebunt curam animarum in eisdem, unusquisque in parochia sua, et non præpositus, et nobis et successoribus nostris de cura animarum et spiritualibus respondebunt, præposito vero de temporalibus ipsum contingentibus. Jurisdictionem vero ecclesiarum de Wellinton cum pertinentiis et de Cerde cum pertinentiis habebimus nos et successores nostri, et is cui eam commisimus nobis respondebit immediate. Jurisdictionem vero Ecclesiarum de Wynesham cum pertinentiis et de Cumba cum pertinentiis habebit decanus et Capitulum Well., et is cui ipsi eam commiserint, inde nobis immediate respondebit. Reddet autem dictus præpositus de Cumba qui pro tempore fuerit, de dicta præpositura annuatim quindecim præbendas quindecim Canonicis Ecclesiæ Wellensis, quibus nos vel successores nostri eas contulerimus, singulis singulas decem marcas annuas, nomine præbendæ apud Welles, in quatuor anni terminis subscriptis æquis portionibus in Capitulo Wellensi. De quindecim præbendis prædictis unam sic, nomine præbendæ Ecclesiæ Wellensis, retinebit annuatim qui pro tempore dictam præposituram habuerit. Dabit autem idem præpositus annuatim tres marcas Vicario suo Wellensi de præbenda et præpositura sua; reliqui vero prædictorum Canonicorum dabunt singuli Vicariis suis in ecclesia Wellensi ministrantibus annuatim duas marcas ad minus de præbendis suis, nomine Vicariæ ad quatuor anni terminos subscriptos æquis portionibus. Quod si nos vel successores nostri ei qui pro tempore fuerit præpositus aliquam præbendam quæ non sit de præpositura contulerimus, dabit inde vicario suo in Ecclesia Wellensi tres marcas annuatim ad minus, quæcunque fuerit illa præbenda, et nos et successores nostri præbendam illam decem marcarum quæ fuit prius præpositi conferemus cui voluerimus, qui de illa dabit Vicario dictæ præbendæ in Ecclesia Wellensi duas marcas annuas ad minus, sicut alii Canonici ejusdem præposituræ, et præpositus supplebit eidem Vicario tertiam marcam quousque ipse qui erat Vicarius meliorem Vicariam fuerit consecutus, vel cesserit vel decesserit.

"Reddet etiam idem præpositus annuatim viginti marcas ad servitium Beatæ Virginis, quod Dei gratia constituimus solemniter faciendum in Ecclesia Wellensi, in subscriptis terminis æquis portionibus apud Welles Capellanis et clericis ad servitium illud deputatis.

"Præterea reddet idem præpositus decem marcas annuas ad servitium, quod pro defunctis gratia Dei in Ecclesia Wellensi faciendum in perpetuum instituimus, quas decem marcas reddet apud Welles Capellanis et clericis ad servitium assignatis in quatuor anni terminis subscriptis æquis portionibus. Quicquid autem residuum fuerit ultra prædicta præpositus sic nomine præposituræ retinebit. Jurabit autem idem præpositus se satisfacturum canonicis dictæ præposituræ, et ministrantibus ad altare Beatæ Virginis et ad altare defunctorum, infra quindecim dies post unumquemque terminum assignatum de prædicta pecunia eis annuatim persolvenda sicut prædictum est. Quia vero ad annuam solutionem totius dictæ pecuniæ assignavimus non solum fructus autumni, sed etiam omnia alia emolumenta ejusdem præposituræ totius anni, Statuimus et ordinamus quod quocunque tempore anni contigerit præpositum qui pro tempore fuerit cedere eidem præposituræ, vel in fata decedere, habeat omnia emolumenta totius illius anni post decessum vel cessionem suam usque ad festum Nativitatis Beati Johannis Baptistæ proxime sequens, et omnia onera ipsius præposituræ per omnia sustineat, et etiam faciet totam sòlutionem illius termini, scilicet Nativitatis Beati Johannis Baptistæ, quo dictam præposituram dimittet, et tunc ipse vel Executores sui dimittent successori suo in prædicta præpositura centum et septem acras seminatas de frumento apud Cumbe, et centum quadraginta et novem acras seminatas de avena, et septuaginta et octo acras et dimidiam de Warett, et de instauro ibidem quadraginta boves vel quinque solidos pro bove, si forte tot boves non fuerint hinc illic inventi; item ducentas oves, pretium ovis duodecim denarii.

"Item apud Wynesham dimittet dominicum cultum sine numero acrarum et mensura, ita quod occasione dimissionis non minus colatur, et eodem modo dimittet Warett et de instauro sexdecem boves pretium bovis tres solidi et sex denarii; et unum affrum, pretium tres solidi, et sex sues et unum verrem, pretium totius quatuor solidi, et oves et muttones in universo centum triginta duas, pretium ovis sive muttonis quinque denarii, et 53 agnos, pretium agni duo denarii, obolus. Apud Cerde relinquet dominicum cultum sine numero et mensura acrarum eodem modo sicut apud Wynesham; similiter et Warett sine aliquo instauro. Apud Wellinton nihil culturæ dimittet quia quicquid coluerit ibidem ei remanebit, quia sic remansit prædecessori suo. Item si quid seminaverit vel seminare voluerit de vilenagio apud Wynesham, vel apud Cumb, vel apud Cerde, vel apud Wellinton, totum eidem vel successoribus suis remanebit, usque ad festum Sancti Michaelis proximum postquam ipse vel executores sui dictam præposituram dimittent,

ut prædictum est, salvo successori suo redditu quem debet dicta terra a termino quo dictæ præpositurae cesserit vel decesserit usque ad dictum festum Sancti Michaelis, et etiam si plus coluerit de dominico apud Cumb, quam accepit ut prædictum est, ei vel executoribus suis remanebit. Ad hæc de instauro prædicto, si tantum inveniatur tempore cessionis suæ vel decessus in dictis locis, tantum remanebit successori suo, et de defectu si quis fuerit, respondebit secundum pretium prædictum de instauro. Hæc autem sic ordinavimus, quia Willelmus de Whethamstede qui tempore hujus ordinationis fuit præpositus in tali forma per omnia dictam præposituram recepit et sic eam dimittet quicunque de cætero fuerit præpositus dictæ prepositurae. Et in hujus rei robur et testimonium præsenti scripto sigillum nostrum una cum sigillo prædicti Capituli apponi fecimus.

"Act. in Crastino Natalis Domini in Capitulo Wellensi, pontificatus nostro anno vicesimo nono. (1234.)

"Et ego Willelmus Camell Clericus Wellensis diocesis authoritate apostolica notarius, præmissis omnibus et singulis prout suprascribuntur, una cum dictis notariis et testibus præsens interfui, eaque sic fieri vidi et audivi, ac scripsi, et in hac publicam formam redegi meoque signo consueto signavi rogatus in fidem et testimonium præmissorum.

"Et ego Walterus de Hulle Clericus Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis publicus authoritate Apostolica Notarius, omnibus et singulis, Anno, Indictione, mense, die, Pontificatu et loco prædictis, prout suprascribuntur actis, una cum notariis et testibus suprascriptis, præsens interfui, ac ea sic fieri vidi et audivi, meque huic instrumento publico subscripsi rogatus in testimonium veritatis."

# LICENCES FOR ORATORIES.

| No. | Parish. | Place. | Person. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 389 | Badgworth ... | Manor House ... | Margery La Iressch ... | April 27, 1332. |
| 630 | ,, .. | ,, ,, .. | Egelina de Hampton ... | Dec. 24, 1333. |
| 656 | ,, .. | ,, ,, ... | ,, ,, ,, ... | Mar. 3, 1334. |
| 2815 | Bathampton ... | Oratory ... ... | James Husee ... .. | Mar. 22, 1354. |
| 1370 | Banwell ... .. | Potingthrop .. | Richard de Clyvedon ... | Oct. 1, 1339. |
| | Berrow ... ... | Manor House ... | Juliana de Berghes .. | Feb. 20, 1338. |
| 688 | Bicknoller ... .. | Thorncombe . | John le Bret ... ... | July 6. 1334. |
| 403 | Bristol ... ... | Mansion ... . . | Hugh de Langebrugge | May 28, 1332. |
| 729 | Bridgwater ... | Westbower ... | William Coker ... ... | Dec. 24, 1334. |
| 1363 | ,, ... | ,, .. | Richard Coker ... .. | Sept. 24, 1339. |
| | Butleigh ... ... | Manor House .. | Robert Seyntcler ... .. | Jan. 7, 1334. |
| 1410 | Bawdrip ... .. | Forde Manor .. | Adam de la Forde ... | Nov. 15, 1340. |
| 1620 | Charlton Mackerel | Cary Tucker's .. | Peter de Lecto ... ... | Aug. 3, 1341. |
| 1717 | ,, ,, | ,, Lytes ... | ,, ,, ,, ... .. | June 24, 1343. |
| 1762 | Camel, West ... | Vicarage ... .. | Vicar? Stephen Tripp ... | Nov. 24, 1343. |
| 1762 | Cary ... ... | Manor House ... | John Knyght ... ... | ,, ,, |
| 718 | Chard ... .. | Walterscombe ... | Unfrid de Keel ... ... | Oct. 24, 1334. |
| 2282 | Charlton Adam ... | Manor House ... | William Poulet .. ... | May 1, 1349. |
| 1329 | Churchill ... .. | Oratory ... ... | Margery la Fitzpayn ... | May 4, 1339. |
| 651 | Compton Dando ... | Wyke ... ... | John de la Ryvere ... | Feb. 25, 1334. |
| 395 | ,, Martin ... | Morton ... ... | John and Alice de Morton | May 26, 1332. |
| 489 | Corston ... ... | Wydecombe ... | Sir William de Mulborne | Oct. 22, 1332. |
| 1812 | Crowcombe .. | Legh ... .. | Simon de Craucombe ... | Feb. 21, 1345. |
| 558 | Cudworth ... .. | Manor House ... | Joan, widow of Matt. de Eisset | May 31, 1333. |
| 1159 | Ditcheat ... ... | Alhampton ... | Juliana, w. of Elias Fitzpayn | Oct. 6, 1337. |
| 559 | ,, .. ... | Lottesham Manor | Henry Poer ... .. | May 31, 1333. |
| 1368 | Donyat ... ... | Manor House ... | Lord Wm. de Montacute Earl of Salisbury | Oct. 3, 1339. |
| 1763 | Doulting ... ... | Downhead... ... | Sir John Inge ... ... | Nov. 27, 1343. |
| 1821 | Corston ... .. | Chapel ... ... | ,, ,, ,, .. ... | Feb. 25, 1345. |
| 1314 | Henstridge ... | Yenston ... .. | John Yenston ... .. | Jan. 18, 1339. |
| 656 | Hemington ... | Manor House ... | Petronilla de Walton ... | March 3, 1334. |
| 2406 | Hinton Blewit .. | ,, ,, ... | William de Sutton ... | Oct. 30, 1349. |
| 726 | Huntspill ... ... | ,, ,, ... | Sir Richard Cogan .. | Nov, 21, 1334. |
| 2798 | Ilton ... ... | Merifield ... ... | Margaret Beauchamp ... | March 4, 1354. |
| 956 | Kelston ... ... | House ... ... | William de Barton ... | Dec. 3, 1335. |
| 682 | Ken ... ... | Manor House ... | Elizabeth, w. of John de Ken | June 19, 1333. |
| 2822 | Kingston ... ... | Hestercombe ... | Symon de Meriet ... .... | March 27, 1354 |
| 1796 | Littleton, High ... | Oratory ... ... | William de Lutleton ... | Jan. 20, 1345. |
| 473 | Limington ... ... | Court House ... | Robert de Tudenham ... | Nov. 4, 1332. |

LICENCES FOR ORATORIES—*continued.*

| No. | Parish. | Place. | Person. | Date. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 558 | Martock ... ... | Mansion ... ... | John Say ... ... ... | May 31, 1333. |
| 724 | ,, ... ... | Stapleton ... ... | Robert Seyntcler ... ... | Nov. 20, 1334. |
| 715 | ,, ... ... | Manor House ... | Sir John de Fienles ... | Nov. 1, 1334. |
| 355 | Milborne Port ... | Wick Manor ... | Roger and Eliz. de Guldene | Feb. 26, 1332. |
| 642 | ,, ,, ... | ,, ,, ... | Roger de Guldene ... | Jan. 29, 1334. |
| 1226 | ,, ,, ... | ,, ,, ... | ,, ,, ,, ... ... | June 12, 1338. |
| 1822 | Montacute... .. | John Baret's house | Lady Sybil Plokenet ... | March 13, 1344. |
| 1190 | North Curry ... | Oratory ... ... | John Atte Slo ... ... | Dec. 21, 1337. |
| 688 | Nettlecombe ... | Hywissch .. ... | John de Lodchiwissch .. | July 6, 1334. |
| 385 | Newton, St Lo ... | Manor chapel ... | John de Seyntlou ... | April 22, 1332. |
| 1797 | Pawlett ... .. | Oratory ... ... | John Poulet ... ... | Jan. 24, 1345. |
| 1233 | ,, ... ... | Manor House ... | Master of S. Martin near Bristol | July 18, 1338. |
| 1920 | Pennard, East ... | Bradley Oratory ... | Robert de Ludes ... ... | Oct. 22. 1345. |
| | Quantoxhead, East | Perry Court . | Peter atte Wymyate ... | Feb. 28, 1345. |
| 1851 | ,, West | Oratory ... ... | Walter de Pavely ... ... | July 10, 1344. |
| 1798 | Seaborough ... | Pipelpenne ... | Robert Martyn ... ... | Jan. 25, 1345. |
| 2619 | ,, ... | ,, ... | ,, ,, ... ... | Dec. 3, 1351. |
| 688 | Stogumber... ... | Roudon ... ... | Joan de Ralee ... . . | July 6, 1334. |
| 2785 | Sutton Montagu ... | Oratory ... .. | Sybil D'Arundell .. ... | Dec. 10, 1353. |
| 1696 | Stawley ... ... | Apley Manor ... | John de Apperleigh ... | Jan. 13, 1343. |
| 1826 | Trent ... ... | Hombre Oratory ... | John de Hombre ... ... | Feb. 16, 1345. |
| 1310 | Walcot ... .. | Chapel ... ... | Andrew de Brumpton ... | April 19, 1338. |
| 655 | Walton in Gordano | Oratory .. ... | ,, ,, ,, .. | Feb. 28, 1333. |
| 1170 | Wellington ... | Chapel ... ... | John de Molton ... ... | Dec. 10, 1343. |
| 1164 | Wells ... ... | Mansion ... .. | Adam de Cheleworthe ... | Oct. 3, 1337. |
| 2828 | ,, .. .. | Oratory ... ... | William Kynardeley ... | April 8, 1354. |
| 538 | West Buckland ... | Gerbaston ... ... | John de Gerbaston ... | March 5, 1333. |
| 1172 | Winscombe ... | Woodbergh ... | John de Barton ... ... | Nov. 5, 1337. |
| 344 | ,, ... | ,, ... | ,, ,, ... ... | Jan. 6, 1331. |
| 1756 | ,, .. | ,, ... | ,, ,, ... ... | Oct. 26, 1343. |
| 2793 | ,, ... | Wyntred ... .. | ,, ,, ... ... | Jan. 17, 1354. |
| 1227 | Winsham ... .. | La Hegh ... ... | Amice de la Heighe ... | Feb. 2, 1338. |
| 1776 | ,, ... ... | ,, ... ... | ,, ,, ,, ... | Dec. 25, 1343. |
| 285 | Wraxall ... ... | Broadcombe ... | John atte More ... ... | Sept. 1, 1331. |
| 1173 | Wrington ... ... | Bourne ... .. | Elizabeth de Bourne ... | Nov. 7, 1337. |
| 605 | ,, ... ... | ,, ... ... | ,, ,, ,, ... | Oct. 6, 1333. |
| 1200 | Yatton ... ... | Wike manor ... | John Wike... ... ... | April 5, 1338. |

## The Bishop's Chapter at Wells

As far as the names are mentioned in the Register.

*Deans.*—John de Godelegh.
Richard de Bury.
Walter de London.

*Precentors.*—William de Bubland, William de Littleton, Edmund Gournay.

*Archdeacons of Wells.*—Robert de Wamberge, Roger de Mortimer, Thomas Fastolf, William, Cardinal-bishop of Tusculum.

*Chancellors.*—Thomas de Retford, John de Middleton, Simon de Bristol, John de Carleton, John de Horsington.

*Treasurers.*—Richard de Thistleden, Richard de Thormerton.

*Sub-deans.*—Walter Bron, Walter de Burton, Walter de Hulle, Matthew de Valencenis, William de Lavington, William Camel.

### *Prebendaries.*

Ashill.—Roger de Nassington.
Dulcote.—Nicholas de Drokensford, John de Coddington.
Barton.—Robert de Baldok, Thomas de Bokton.
Buckland Dinham.—Robert de Clipston, Walter Byrecombe.
Combe I.—Henry de Carleton.
„ II.—John de Everdon, Walter de Hull, John Power.
„ III.—John de Sutton.
„ V.—Thomas de Stapleton, William de Lutleton.
„ VI.—Stephen Trippe.
„ VIII.—Thomas de Retford, William Banastre, John Warynge.
„ X.—Arnald de Malo Ingenio, Geoffrey de Chelcheheth.
„ XI.—Richard Derby, John de Offord.
„ XIV.—Pontini de Verreriro, Walter de Aldebury.
„ XV.—William de Weston, Nicholas de Ilford.
Compton Bishop.—Gilbert de Bruera, John de Carlton, John de Horsington.

Compton Dundon.—Thomas Beauford, William de Odecombe.
Cudworth.—Richard de Rodeneye, Bartholomew Tyrel, Richard de Carlton.
Easton.—Peter de Berkele, William de Bryntone, William de Seltone, John de Sydenhale.
Holcombe.—Adam Murymouth, Thomas Murymouth.
Huish.—Archdeacons of Wells.
Haselberge.—John de Bruyton, John de Carlton, Gilbert Bruera.
Henstridge.—Raymond Peregrini, Henry de Walton.
Harptree.—Richard de Thistleden, Henry de Harwedon, Henry de Ingleby.
Ilton.—Henry de Iddesworth, David Maynard, John de Iddesleigh.
Litton.—Bartholomew Tyrel, Richard de Rodeneye.
Milverton.—Archdeacons of Taunton.
Shalford.—William de Melebourne, Henry de Clyfe, Walter de Burle, Richard de Bynteworth.
St. Decumans.—John Giffard, Bernard Brocaz.
Taunton.—John de Kynardeseye, John Logwardyn, Thomas de Schepton, Adam Trewelove.
Timberscombe.—Thomas Hereward, Walter de Bruton, John de Carleton.
Warminster or Luxfield.—John de Sydenhale, William de Salton, John de Blebury.
Wedmore IV.—Ralph de Wyndesore, William de Odecombe.
„ V.—William de Camel, John de Pulle.
Whitchurch.—Richard de Thormerton.
Whitelackington.—Wibert de Lutultone, Thomas de Hakulut.
Worminster.—Thomas de Haselschaw, William de Wykham, Edmund Gournay.
Wyveliscombe.—Robert de Taunton.

Other canons are referred to in the Register, but the names of their stalls are not mentioned.

# Bishop Ralph's Register.

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Appropriatio et ordinatio vicarie, fol. 316. Item fol. 162. [First fly leaf.]

Registrum domini.
Radulphi.
Registrum domini.
Radulphi.

Radulphus Episcopus.

ab anno 1329.
ad annum 1362.

Commissio vicarie generalis, fol. 36.

Dispositio ecclesie de Henton . . . .

Hospitalis sancti Johannis Bristolie, fol. 324.

Hospitalis sancte Katerine ibidem, fol. 328.

Inuinctiones Kensham, fol. 347, fol. 415.

Ordinatio vicarie de Wullauington, fol. 173.

Augmentatio vicarie de Northover, 173.

Ordinacio Cantarie de Wullauington, 204.

Charta Decani et Capituli Wellen' pro terra de Okehampton, 67.

Compositio inter Episcopum et Archidiaconum Wellensem, 178.

Visitatio ecclesie cathedralis Wellensis, 85.

[On the back of the second fly leaf.] Decretum electionis apud Canyngton, fol. 154.

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Fol. 1. Register of the venerable father Ralph (de Salopia), by the grace of God, Bishop of Bath and Wells, from the first year of his consecration, Saturday next after the Feast of St. Giles the Abbot, A.D. 1329, on which day he was fully consecrated.
Dominical letter A.

1. Simon, Archbishop of Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph. Cum de consuetudine laudabili nostrorum predecessorum tempore hactenus sit obtentum, ac etiam a tempore et per tempus cujus contrarium memoria non existit laudabiliter usitatum quod quiscumque in episcopum cujuscumque cathedralis ecclesie nostre Cantuariensis ecclesie electus qui per archiepiscopum Cantuariensem in dicte ecclesie episcopum fuerit consecratus parsone ydonee quam idem archiepiscopus in hac parte duxerit nominandam in sua cathedrali ecclesia si inibi canonicatus et prebende existant de canonicatu et prebenda. Alioquin de alio beneficio ecclesiastico competenti ac etiam eidem nominato quousque sibi sic ut premittitur provisum fuerit unam pensionem constituere teneatur. Nos vero jura et consuetudines nostre ecclesia Cantuariensis observare quatenus nobis est possibile cupientes ac promotionem delecti clerici nostri Magistri Laurencii de Fastotise suis exigentibus meritis corditer affectantes ipsum juxta consuetudinem prelibatam vobis quem nuper in Bathonensium et Wellensium ecclesiarum episcopum consecravimus ad canonica-

tum et prebendam in dicta vestra ecclesia necnon ad hujusmodi pensionem quousque de canonicatu et prebenda in prefata ecclesia sibi per vos fuit provisum sic ut premittitur obtinendam duximus nominandum. Vosque ad nostram nominationem huiusmodi predictum Magistrum Laurencium in canonicum et in fratrem dicte vestre ecclesie recepistis. Quo circa fraternitatem vestram requirimus et rogamus quatinus eidem Magistro Laurencio prebendam in ecclesia vestra predicta cum primo id comode fieri poterit conferre et assignare curetis ac quousque sibi sic ut premittitur provisum fuerit eidem talem pensionem constituere.

Maghefeld, v Id., Sept., A.D. 1329.

2. Letters dimissory for Thomas Christi, rector of the church of Cameley, to obtain the order of subdeacon.

Craunfeld, 16th September, in the year above said, and the first year of our pontificate.

3. Memorandum quod dictis die et loco in literis precedentibus contentis, Robertus Sprote de Escoker rogauit instanter pro literis dimissoriis habendis ad ordinem diaconatus, quem dominus Episcopus non admisit, eo quod vicariam de Ashton recepit et in ea ministrauit ordinem subdiaconatus tantum habens. Acta erant hec in presentia Magistri Walteri de Burton, Johannis de Aulton, et Johannis de Leftewich, clericis. Anno supradicto.

4. Venerando discretionis viro et amico suo confidentissimo Magistro etc., sacre pagine professori, Radulphus permissione etc., salutem in viscerosis illius amplexibus qui venit genus humanum redimere et saluare. Dilectioni vestre actenus de nobis . . . . . ac multipliciter in nostris agendis ostense gratiarum actiones quas tenemur vobis referre non sufficimus: quod tamen possumus offerimus corditer cum affectu.

Vestram a diu inchoatam amicitiam de qua plenam licet non meruim gerimus fiduciam quanta possumus instancia obsecrantes quatinus pro defensione et status nostri conseruatione, sicut inchoastis, sic continuare velitis erga sanctissimum patrem nostrum ac dominos Cardinales. Insuper et Magistro R. Brik clerico nostro in agendo si placet consulere, eidemque in vestre

exponendo benevolencie predilecte fidem credulam adhibere. Certissimam spem tenentes quod si mediante Dei auxilio et vestra promocione status noster illibatus seruetur. Quicquid suffragii et amicitie nobis inpenderitis antitoda rependere intendimus pro loco et tempore oportunis. Ad laudem Dei et fulcimentum ecclesie vobis addat Altissimus annos multos.

Scriptum London' xvj die mensis Septembris.

5. Bond of Bishop Ralph to the Abbot of Glastonbury and his monastery in . . *li.* sterling, had from them for the uses of his church. To be paid to the abbot and his monastery on the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist next after the date of these presents at Glaston, in the monastery aforesaid.

London, on the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary.

6. Letters procuratorial for Master W. de Exonia, rector of the church of Norton David, in the diocese of Lincoln, and Sir John de Iford, monk of Bath, to borrow 63 *li.*

Cadynton, 13th September, first year of our consecration.

7. Inventarium omnium bonorum et utensilium inventorum in manerio domini Londonio ex Templebarre die Veneris in Crastino Sancti Laurencii A.D. 1329.

Videlicet. ij mense dormientes et. iiij. mobiles.

Item. viij formule.

Item. viij paria trestellarum.

Item una tabula pro ciphis ponendis.

Item in capella. iiij. deskes. j. Lecteron pro altare. ij. candelebra. j. Carde ad cooperiendam ymaginem beate Marie, et. j. candelebrum pro tenebris. In pistrina. ij. Trowes. j. Boltyngtonne, et. j. Moldygbord. et. ij. plumba.

Item in lardaria. ij. Trowes.

Item in coquina. iij. dressores et extra hostium. ij. dressours. Et in lardaria stabat. j. dressorium quod solebat esse in coquina ut dixerunt.

Item, in hospicio. j. par rotarum pertinens ad portam aque.

Item, xx claves ad portas et alia hostia ejusdem hospicii. Et concessa est custodia dicti hospicii una cum bonis et utensilibus

Johanni Balle Cissori que omnia prius erant in custodia Thome Wallepolle Burgensis. Londonie.

8. Copia. vij. literarum directarum. vij. Cardinalibus, exceptis . . . et nominibus in diuers . . . . . e mutantur.

Reuerendo etc., suus etc. Eam quidem ut audiuimus ac experimente facti didicimus certiori de sinceritate vestra fiduciam gerere possumus quod preces quas vobis porrigimus, que nostro et ut speramus Dei iudicio iusticiam sapiunt, equitatem et caritatem continent, ad exaudicionis gratiam Dei et vestro auxilio deducentur. Cum itaque electionem nostram rite factam et concordem, confirmacione ac consecratione canonice subsecutis disponente Domino approbatam, statumque nostrum, nostri emuli ut nobis dicitur, virulentis suggestionibus, elidere, se conantur, et peruersos conatus suos huiusmodi nisi sunt fraudulenter ac toto posse nequiter exercere. Vestre paternitatis amicitiam de qua plenam licet non meruimus in Domino fiduciam optinemus ; obnixius et quanta possumus affectione rogamus, quatinus pro defensione et conseruacione status nostri sic interponere dignemini si libeat partes vestras et studia erga sanctissimum patrem nostrum et alios, quod nostra iusticia et veritas falsissimis detractionibus non succumbant. Certissimam spem tenentes quod si mediante Dei et vestro auxilio statum nostrum, nostris Dei et ecclesiis nostris hostibus illibatum conseruare poteritis ; quicquid fauoris et suffragii nobis in prosecutione iuris nostri et ecclesiarum nostrarum huiusmodi impenderitis, antituda rependere intendimus pro loco et tempore oportunis sicut dilectus noster clericus Magister Rogerus Brickebey vestre paternitati plenius dicere nouerit ac super hiis seriosius mentem nostram. Ad laudem Dei etc.

Scriptum. xvj. die Septembris.

9. Grant of a pension of 5 marks annually to Master Lawrence Fastolf.

Dogmersfeld, vi Kal., Oct., first year of our consecration.

10. Brother Simon de Borastona, Prior Provincial of the order of Friars Preachers in England, to Pope John. xxii. Fol. 2.

Sane reuerentissimus dominus. Dominus Bathonensis Episcopus, qui Uniuersitate Oxoniensi in tribus honorifice rexit scienciis quique Cancellarii officium magnifice tenuit in eadem ad pontificalem dignitatem vite sancte et doctrine clare meritis Dei dono meruit promoueri . . . Fratres videlicet predicatores qui affectu adherent affectuosius filiali vestre sanctissime bonitati ac fauore in omnibus prosequi gracioso. Talem igitur ac tantum fidei pugilem, tam validum modernis temporibus ecclesie defensorem acceptum habere dignetur vestre presidencie celcitudo, amplectique carnis in paterne visceribus caritatis. Valeat vestra excellentissima sanctitas, *etc.*

Scriptum apud Dogmersfeld quinto kalend. Octobris.

11. Licence for Andrew Lutterel, rector of the church of Estcantockesheued, to study at any university in England for a year.

Dogmeresfeld, v Kal., Oct., A.D. 1329.

12. Letter from Bishop Ralph to the King.

A tresnoble e treshonurable Prince e sonn trescher e tresame seignur si li plest nostre seignur . . . Edward par la grace de Dieu Roy Dengleterre seignur Dirland e Duks Daquitane . . . . . chapelyn Rauf par meisme la suffraunce Ẽuesqe de Baa e de Welles qant qil . . . . . e de reuerences come a sonn seignur liges. Trescher seignur endroit de ceo qe vous nous auetz maundes par vos lettres qe nous grauntassons une enpension couenable a vostre cher clerk R . . . de . . . . . qe nous li pussons auanser a benefice anceint Eglis. Nous eaums . . . . . comaundementz . . . . . le dit Cl . . purra profiter a nous . . . eglises . . . . . par nos lettres . . . . . tannkil pusse par nous . . . . . . . . ble pur li . . . . . bien par temps . . . . . choses . . nous pusons faire p . . . . . bone vie e longe a profist de vostre terre e gouernaile de . . . . . iiij. kalen. Decembre.

Fol. 2b. 13. Grant of an annual pension of 100*s.* to Richard de Barwe, the king's clerk.

Dogmersfeld, v Kal., October, in the year abovesaid.

14. Institution of Thomas de Compton, of Northouere next Iuelcestre, chaplain to the vicarage of Northouere, at the presentation of the Hospital of St. John of Brugeswalter.
Dogmersfeld, iv Kal., October, in the year abovesaid.

15. Memorandum quod dominus recepit de Thessaurario Wellensi unam casulam albam de rubeis auibus cum alba amita parura stola et manipula cum tunica et dalmatica de secta casule ac unam tunicam cum dalmatica alba ex parte una et nigra ex altera de una secta per manus Roberti de Baace clerici. Item unum anulum pontificale cirotecas debiles et crismatorium sine claue per manus Magistri Walteri de Hulle.
Item unum librum pontificale per manus Willielmi Darches et Willielmi Barbitonsoris.
Ad quorum omnium restitucionem faciendam dominus obligatur.

16. Institution of John de Strengeston, priest, to the church of Clotton at the presentation of William de Gournay.
iij Non., October, in the year abovesaid.

17. Institution of John de Bere, priest, to the church of Holeford, at the presentation of the convent of Stokehurci.

18. Appointment of Michael de Eston, canon of Wells, as steward of all the manors of the bishopric.
Dogmersfeld, v Non., Oct., in the abovesaid year.

19. Licence for Nicholas Croke, of Kynggesclere, rector of the church of Henton Monachorum, to study for a year.
Non., Oct., in the year abovesaid.

20. Like licence for Master Thomas Christi, rector of the church of Cameley.
Same date.

21. Licence for John Bernardyn, rector of the church of Muriet, to study for a year.
Same date.

Fol. 3. 22. Indulgence for people of the diocese going to the conventual church of St. Augustine, Bristol, and for those who shall give ornaments or bequests in their wills to the said church, or shall pray for Sir William de Monte Acuto, knight, and the lady Elizabeth, his mother, Katherine, his wife, and their children whilst they live and for their souls when they shall pass from this light; and for the souls of Sirs Simon and William de Monte Acuto, knights, founders of the said church, and for the souls of all the faithful.

iv Id., Sept., in the year above.

23. Bishop Ralph to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

We pray that you will deign to dispense with Master Roger de Aston, doctor of civil law, "quavis in Curia vestra de Arcubus non ad plenam per tempus totum steterit iuxta eiusdem curie statutum sine consuetudinem requisitum."

24. Bishop Ralph to the Dean and Chapter of Wells asking for their advice in the matter of a collation lately made of the Archdeaconry of Wells by the king, who had written to accelerate the matter, and Sir William de Monte Acuto had also sent his letters testimonial to whom the Bishop had answered that he could not proceed therein without the advice of the Chapter.

25. Bishop Ralph to Roger de Mortimer, Earl of March.

Pur ceo trescher sire qe done est a entendre a nostre seint piere en Dieu le pape a graunde arerissement de nostre estate, par askuns nent bien voilannts a nous, qe lestate qe nous auoums, est a conntre la volunte nostre seignur le Roi . . . Trescher sire nous vous requironns affectuosement de qoer qe vous vodretz tesmoigner par vous lettres a nostre dite seint piere . . .

Dogmersfeld, 10 Oct.

Fol. 3b. 26. Licence for Sir Robert Alwey, rector of the church of Bledon, to be absent from his church for a year.

Dogmersfeld, iv Id. Oct. in the year abovesaid.

27. On the next day following. Induction of Walter de Paunton, deacon, to the vicarage of Bokelond, at the presentation of Sir Robert de Clipston, canon of Wells, by reason of his prebend.

28. Same date. Institution of Richard Attewode, chaplain, to the vicarage of Keynesham vacant by the resignation of Richard de Welewe, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham.

29. Commission for Master Thomas de Ratford, chancellor of Wells to examine the inquisition made concerning the vacancy of the prebendal church of Donden and to institute Hugh de Southwell as parson.
Date next above.

30. Licence for Henry de Lyttulton, subdeacon, rector of the church of Spaxton, to study for a year in England.
Dogmersfeld on the day before the Ides of Sept., in the year abovesaid.

31. Collation of Master Henry de Iddesworthe, to the prebend of Ilton.
Dogmersfeld, iv Id., Oct., in the year abovesaid.

32. Bond of Henry Le Bakere, Thomas Le Saltere, John de Bradewell, John Teler, Robert Le Saltere, and Richard de Bradewell, burgesses of Wells, to the Bishop in all their tenements and other goods, for Roger de Aschebury, their fellow burgess, that the said Roger will faithfully serve the Bishop in the office of janitor in the Bishop's palace at Wells.
Wells, Tuesday next before the feast of St. Kalixtus the Pope 3 Edw. iii.

33. The Bishop to the Pope. Fol. 4.
In vigilia autem beate Magdalene a domino Cantuar' archiepiscopo confirmatus de beneplacito et assensu maiorum regni, Dei gratia inspirante, pocius quam humana industria operante. Dominus rex ad temporalia me admisit supra id quod ante credi poterat gratiose. Nam clericus quidem domine regine, pro quo dominus rex et regina vestre reuerencia literas ut dicitur destinauerant efficaces resistenciam mihi ut verisimiliter creditur, in curia illa viriliter procurauit. Sed tunc contra hominem sanctus spiritus sic prevalebat . . . tandem tali die etc., de consilio

omnium episcoporum Cantuariensis diocesis, iuris-peritorum in regno Anglie, magis secundum famam publicam expertorum ac aliorum consecrationem pertinaciter non renui. Sed imposito iugo humiliter me subieci. Precipueque cum nullum obstaculum patuisset nec de aliquo legittime constitisset quod de iure dictam consecrationem debuit impedire.

34. Institution of Walter de Stockwode, chaplain, to the vicarage of Clofford, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham.

Letters of induction to the Archdeacon of Wells. xvii Kal., Nov., in the year abovesaid.

35. Institution of Ralph Lucy to the parish church of Kytinare at the presentation of John de Bracton.

Letters of induction to the Archdeacon of Taunton.

Dogmersfeld, xii Kal., Nov., in the second year.

36. Bp as Chancellor to his V. Chancellor touching ecclesiastical censure to be passed on two accused brothers, one being his communis serviens. Letter much faded.

Viris venerabilibus et discretis ac nobis in Christo dilectis Magistro A. de B. uniuersitatis Oxonie commissario generali uniuersoque cetui regencium Magistrorum, Radulphus permissione diuina Bathonensium et Wellensium ecclesiarum minister, ac Cancellario uniuersitatis eiusdem salutem et in Domino successibus prosperari. Cum iuxta rerum et temporum qualitates iuris ordine suffragante sit honestis amicorum beneplacitis annuendum, ac vir discretus Magister T. de G. clericus de garderoba domini nostri regis nos nuper literatorie supplicasset ut ratione facinoris per Johannem de Gylingham et fratrem suum nostrum communem seruientem perpetrati cum ad huc iuxta condempnacionem quam ipsi voluntates non sit ut asseritur aliqualiter excommunicationis sententium in ipsas Johannem et fratrem suum fulminaremus vel mitteremus fulminandam. Vestram sinceritatem toto cordis affectu pulsamus requirimus et rogamus quatinus literarum predictarum, quarum copiam vobis

mittimus presentibus interclusam viis et modis quibus poteritis contra dictos Johannem et fratrem suum quatenus poteritis absque iuris iniuria et ipsorum fideiussorum seu grauamen vel offensa procedere cum effectu *etc.*

37. Licence for William Rosemond, rector of the church of Greynton, to study for a year in England, ix Kal., Nov., in the year abovesaid.

38. Adam [Orlton] Bishop of Worcester, to Bishop Ralph. Asks him to assent to an exchange of benefices between Robert de Alne, rector of the church of Haselton, diocese of Worcester, and Sir John de Doudeswell, vicar of the church of Radecliue, diocese of Bath and Wells.

Dated at Fladebury, 22 Oct., A.D. 1329.

Marginal note that a commission was made to the Bishop of Worcester, viii Kal., Nov.

39. Bishop Ralph to the Archbishop of Canterbury. Certain people had informed the Pope that the Bishop had been confirmed and consecrated against the will and pleasure of the King. Asks him "per vestras literas reverendas dignemini intimare nos nostraque negocia recomendantes si placet precellentissime sanctitati, ac fidem credulam latori presencium plenius adhibentes."

Dogmersfeld, vii Kal., Nov., in the year abovesaid.

40. Bishop Ralph to the Pope. Cum Bathonienses et Wellenses ecclesie essent predecessoris mei, soluto nature debito viduate, certo statuto die, conuenientes Canonici ecclesie Wellensis quinquaginta, et Monachi ecclesie Bathonensis fere totidem, singuli in electione Pontificis ius habentes, me quamquam utique inmeritum et indignum in crastino Ascencionis unanimiter elegerunt tunc relictis viduis disponsandis. In vigilia autem Beate Marie Magdalene, a domino Cautuar' Archiepiscopo fueram confirmatus, dieque sequenti, videlicet die Beate Marie prefate de maiorum regni beneplacito et assensu, Dominus Rex personaliter in Parliamento sua apud Wyndesshore ad temporalia me admisit, supra id quod ante credi poterat gratiose. Nam

clericus quidam domine regine pro quo dominus rex et regina vestre beatitudini literas ut dicitur supplicatorias direxerunt, resistenciam michi ut verisimiliter creditur in illa Curia, totis viribus procurauit. Sed tunc contra hominem sanctus spiritus preualebat. Post que cum maturitate expectans diutius. Tandem die dominico proximo post festum sancte Egidii abbatis de consilio et concessu episcoporum Cantuariensis prouincie, ac iuris peritorum in regno Anglie, magis secundum famam pupplicam expertorum ceterorumque nobilium et magnorum sperans diuine vestreque iustissime bonitati sincerius complacere consecracionis munus finaliter non renui. Sic imposito iugo humiliter me subieci. Presertim cum nullum obstaculum canonice patuisset quod dictum consecracionem et jure debuit impedire. Vestre igitur paternitati flexis genibus, etc.

Fol. 5. 41. Bishop Ralph to the Cardinal Bishop of La Sabina.

Vestram sublimitatem paternalem obnixius interpellans quatinus pro status mei et juris approbatione sue declaratione benigne erga sanctissimum patrem nostrum ceterosque dominos Cardinales solitam solertem vestram continuare dignemini reverendam instanciam ac diligenciam circumspectam . . . . Ceterum dominationi vestre certius acfi deliter presentibus innotescat quod sana securaque consciencia apud omnem hominem poterit affirmari, ea que circa me vestrum humilimum filium et capellanum devotum confirmationem ac consecrationem in preterito agebantur. Illustri regi Anglie prelatis proceribus terre nostre ac eciam communitati cleri et populi fuisse beneplacita et accepta de quo solo altissimo, qui dum spiramine mistico libros cordium aperit, nemo claudit, laudes et actiones offero graciarum, vestris beneplacitis ac obsequiis subiiciens me cum meis.

[Undated].

42. Licence for John Foremon, rector of the church of Corscoumbe, to let his church to farm and to study.

iii Id., Nov., in the year abovesaid.

43. Dominus concessit. xx dies indulgencie omnibus dicentibus orationem dominicam cum salutacione angelica pro animabus

Johannis filii Roberti de Herierd et liberorum suorum uxorisque sue. v Id., Nov., in the second year.

44. Concessit etiam. xxx dies indulgencie omnibus dicentibus orationem dominicam cum salutatione Angelica pro animabus Willelmi de Perton et Johanne uxoris sue, Coventrensis et Lichfieldensis diocesis.

Dogmersfeld, Id., Nov., same year.

45. Letters dimissory for Richard de Brantygham, rector of the church of Henton St. George, that he may be ordained to holy orders by any bishop of England, willing to ordain him, in the year abovesaid.

46. At Dogmersfeld, Id. November in the second year. Collation of Sir John de Sutton, priest, to the church of Axebrugge, and institution as rector.

Mandate to the Archdeacon of Wells to induct.

47. Memorandum that William de Ratford had a commission to the bailiwick of Bath and Pokeleschirche " dum sibi placuerit."

Id., November, in the year abovesaid.

48. The Archbishop of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 5b.

Sir Icher de Concoreto, canon of Sarum, has lately delivered to us certain apostolic rescripts containing the proceedings against Peter de Coruaria and Lewis de Bauaria, and, as the said rescripts are directed as much to you as to me, we order you to have a transcript made thereof and return the original by the bearer, certifying us what you think fit to do.

Cliue justa Hegham, ii Non., Oct., in the year of the Lord abovesaid.

49. Bond of Bishop Ralph, to restore to the dean and chapter of Wells, one mitre value 100*s*., one pastoral staff value 10 marks, one silver salver value 4½ marks, and two silver candelabra value 12 marks, at the feast of St. Michael next.

Id., November, in the year abovesaid.

50. Bishop Ralph to his very dear friend Master John de Elham, S.T.D., Archdeacon of Essex.

Amice carissime, super pecunia nobis per vos nuper mutuata, ac aliis beneficiis quamplurimis et inmensis que vestra nobis sepius gratuitas inpendebat, vobis assurgimus ad gratiarum multiplices actiones. Nos ad consimilia et maiora pro vestris beneplacitis districtius obligantes.

Et quia vestra dilectio nobis intimari curavit quod deputato nuper per vos quodam famulo pro pecunia in certo loco querenda, terminoque elapso infra quem debuerat rediise, suspicionem gerimus aliqualem quod idem famulus cum dicta vestra pecunia non habens animum redeundi diabolo suadente recessit, ac propter hoc velletis quod ad presens per unum de nostris vobis per nos debitam pecuniam mitteremus; vestra scire velit discretio reverenda quod de dolore vestro in casu premisso tantam cordis angustiam sustinemus; ac si nostra pecunia fuisset deperdita vel amissa et vobiscum Deo teste anxie condolemus. Verum licet apud quosdam sit proverbium generale quod Mutuum non consuevit ad pristinum dominum cum jocunditate redire. Volumus tamen omni modo infra illum diem quem nobis per vestras literas assignastis vestram vobis pecuniam mittere sine mora.

Come to us as soon as you can.

Dogmersfeld, xv Kal., Dec., A.D. 1329.

51. Licence for John de Cotheie, rector of the church of Ceden, subdeacon, to study for a year in England.

xiii Kal., Dec., A.D. 1329.

Fol 6. 52. xiii Kal., Dec., A.D. 1329. Licence for Sir John de Resyngdon, rector of the church of Yeuele, priest, to study for two years in England. At the instance of Sir John Mautrauers, knight.

53. Bishop Ralph to his very dear friend Master Gilbert de Middelton, Archdeacon of Northampton.

We heard by the relation of trustworthy men that, God be praised, you enjoy health of body. What Master Simon de Bristol, "dilectus noster communis," shall relate on our behalf

*vivâ voce* you may put trust in, and deign in a friendly manner to give effect to those things according to our desire.

20 Nov., A.D. (1329.) abovesaid.

54. xii Kal., Dec., A.D. 1329. Licence for Thomas de Bony, rector of the church of Blakedon, priest, to study for a year in England.

55. Bishop Ralph to Sir Andrew, rector of the church of the B. Mary de Arcubus, London.

We return you thanks for the transmission of letters from the Roman Court which you sent us, and for other benefits. Whenever any letters shall be destined therefrom to us will you send them without delay at our costs?

Dogmersfeld, xii Kal., Dec.

56. Bishop Ralph to Master Henry de Idesworth, official of the Court of Canterbury.

We have caused the incumbent of the prebend of Ilton to be cited to appear before us or our commissary, you will take care to certify us as soon as you can what commissary you desire to have.

xii Kal., Dec., A.D., 1329.

57. xi Kal., Dec., Commission for Masters Thomas de Retford, chancellor of Wells, Richard de Thistelden, treasurer of Wells, William Broun, subdean of Wells, and Thomas Pontesbury, professor of civil law, to hear the cause touching the prebend of Ilton, and to compel the incumbent to show his title.

58. Bishop Ralph to Roger, Bishop of Salisbury.

For divers causes we are not yet able, honourably, to go down to parts of our diocese to ordain our own subjects. Will you deign to grant us special licence to ordain in some part of your diocese?

59. Mandate from the Bishop to the Archdeacon of Bath to publish his intention to confer holy orders and other orders in Fol. 6b.

the conventual church of Reading on Saturday *quatuor temporum* next after the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle by special licence of the Bishop of Sarum.

Dogmersfeld, ix Kal., Dec., in the year abovesaid.

60. Mandate of the Archbishop of Canterbury to all the Bishops, elects, abbots, priors, &c., throughout the diocese of Canterbury, containing a "Vidimus" of the Bull of Pope John [xxij] dated ij. Kal., Sept., in the thirteenth year of his Pontificate.

At Mourtelake, Kal., Nov., A.D. 1329.

[Cancelled.]

Fol. 7b. 61. Icherius de Concoreto, Canon of Sarum, the Papal Nuncio in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, to the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

Recites the Bull of Pope John xxij, addressed to him and dated ij Kal., Sept., in the thirteenth year of his Pontificate, concerning an aid from the fruits, rents and issues of the first year, of all ecclesiastical benefices, informs him that owing to divers and arduous affairs of the Apostolic See he cannot make the collection himself, and appoints the Bishop subcollector.

London, 26th March, A.D. 1329.

[Cancelled.]

Fol. 8b. 62. The Papal Nuncio to the official of the Bishop ordering him to cause the procurations due for the second year to be paid "in hospicio quo habitamus, London . . . prope Conductum" before the Feast of the instant Purification.

London, 14 Nov., A.D. 1329.

[Cancelled.]

63. Same to the Bishop.

We request you to pay the Peter's Pence due by reason of your bishopric before the feast of the Purification.

London, 14 Nov., A.D. (1329).

64. Bishop Ralph to Masters Walter Bron, subdean of Wells, John de Middelton, rector of Templecombe, Walter de Hulle,

rector of Schepton Belli Campi (Beauchamp) and Stephen Tripp, rector of Westcammel.

All ecclesiastics of the diocese granted a tithe of their ecclesiastical benefices towards a subsidy for the canonization of the lord William de Marchia, formerly Bishop of Bath and Wells, and for the fabric of our church of Wells, to be paid at certain terms past. Some benefices, nevertheless, without reasonable cause, as we have been informed on reliable authority, have deferred payment. We commit to you the collection thereof.

iii Kal., Dec., A.D. 1329.

65. Commission for Thomas de Ratford, chancellor of Wells, to proceed in the ordinary form of law upon the vacancy of the church of Netelcoumbe, vacant by reason of exchange, and to institute and induct Sir Nicholas de Batheneston. [Batheaston].

iii Non., Dec., in the year abovesaid.

66. Letters dimissory for Master Stephen Trippe, Rector of the church of Westcamel acolyte, to be promoted to the order of subdeacon, and Master Richard de Knolton, rector of the church of Bodeclegh, [Butleigh,] deacon, to the order of priest. Fol. 9.

iii Kal., Dec., in the year abovesaid.

67. Writ from King's Bench for sequestration.

Writ of King Edward iii to the bishop. Whereas Robert, prior of Bath, had lately recovered in the Court of the Lord Edward [1st] formerly King of England, our grandfather, in the 31st year of his reign, before Ralph de Hengham and his associates, then justices of the same, our grandfather, of the Bench, at York, by decree of the same court, against Philip de Odyham, then parson of the church of Radestoke, a certain annual rent of 4 marks to be taken annually to the same prior and his successors, and to his church of Bath in the name of the benefice of the aforesaid church of Radestoke by the hands of the parson of the same church who shall for the time be parson thereof, at two terms of the year, &c., as appears to us by inspection of the record and process of the suit aforesaid, which for certain causes we caused to come before us. And we, at the suit of the afore-

said prior, asserting that 4 marks of the aforesaid annual rent are in arrear to him, and that the aforesaid Philip has died, and that Richard de Pencrich is now parson of the church of Radestoke aforesaid, which said Richard refuses to pay the arrears aforesaid of the same annual rent to the same prior, against the form of the consideration aforesaid. We commanded our sheriff of the county of Somerset that by true and lawful men of his bounty he should cause it to be known to the aforesaid Richard that he should be before us on the Quindene of St. Michael last past, wheresoever we might then be in England, to show if he might have or know anything to say for himself, wherefore the aforesaid 4 marks which are in arrear to the same prior of the annual rent aforesaid should not be made from his lands and chattels in his bailiwick and be paid to the aforesaid prior, if it should seem expedient to him. Which said Richard de Pencrich, although he appeared before us by Praemunire at that day, nevertheless said nothing wherefore the aforesaid prior should not have execution for the aforesaid 4 marks, &c. And therefore we command you that you cause to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of the aforesaid Richard the aforesaid 4 marks, and also 2 marks of arrears of the same annual rent, &c. And do you have them before us on the octave of St. Hilary wheresoever we then shall be in England, to be paid to the same prior, &c.

Witness H. Le Scrope, at Westminster, the 17th day of Nov., in the 3rd year of our reign. Ro. lviii.

Bishop Ralph to his official ordering him to execute the above writ.

The day before the Non. of Dec., A.D. 1329.

68. Petition for a copy of dispensation from residence, the original being burnt. In behalf of rector of Cheddon.

Roger de Stratton, chancellor of the University of Oxford, to Bishop Ralph.

Pater reverende quia vestra benignitas hactenus consuevit diligentes nutrire scolares, studentes fovere, habilesque et idoneos ad gradus provehere altiores, ipsos etiam protegere et a malignantium morsibus defensare; ad fundendas preces justas pariter

et honestas vestre benignitati predicte pro personis saltem bene meritis actus scolastieos excercentibus ampliorem confidenciam assumere non diffido. Hinc est pie pater quod cum nuper predecessor vester inmediatus cum dilecto michi in Christo Magistro Johanne de Cotheye, rectore ecclesie de Ceden, vestre diocesis, per unum annum ex causa studiorum in forma constitutionis ut asserit legitime dispensasset, fuissentque litere dispensationis hujus nuper apud Oxonfordiam casualiter concremate de quo idem Magister Johannes non modicum redditur desolatus, vestram piam paternitatem, que semper consuevit indigentibus subvenire toto corde deprecor et requiro quatinus ad tuitionem et securitatem status dicti Magistri Johannis vestre serenitatis inductum dirigentes, dignemini si placet mearum precum minimo interventu, ut ipse literas dispensationis predicte sigillo vestro habere valeat consignatas, registrum dicti predecessoris vestri facere perscrutari. In tantum si placet quod desolatio predicti subditi vestri in gaudium convertatur, et preces meas sibi senciat effectualiter profuisse. Nam dictum registrum in testimonium dispensationis predicte non dubitat ut asserit invocare.

Oxford, 4 Dec.

The Bishop searches the register of his immediate predecessor and finds that John de Cotheie, rector of the church of Ceden, acolyte, had a general licence to study for a year, dating from ix Kal. Sept. A.D. 1328. He also grants him dispensation at the instance of the Chancellor as above.

9 Dec., A.D. 1329.

69. Acquittance by William de Middlynton, valet of Master William de Exonia, rector of Norton Dauid, in the name of his lord, to the Bishop for 20 *li.* Fol. 9b.

Friday, the feast of the Conception of the glorious Virgin, A.D. 1329, and 3 Edw. iii.

70. Letter from Bishop Ralph to the official ordering him to hear the complaint preferred by John atte Churchestyghele, of Wells, against Master Walter Brown, subdean of Wells, who had excommunicated the said John.

7 Dec.

71. Bishop Ralph to Master Thomas de Hockele, S.P.T.
From your letters we have learnt that the prior of Kenelworth has complained to you that our official has mulcted him in 2 marks, because he did not appear before him, by sequestrating the fruits of the church of Cherleton appropriated to his said monastery, and at your intervention we will command our official to relax the sequestration.

9 Dec. Letter of supersedeas directed to the official in the said matter.

72. Licence for Andrew Lutterel, rector of Estkantokkesheved, to be ordained acolyte.
Id., Dec., in the year abovesaid.

Fol. 10. 73. Same day.
Licence for Walter de Paunton, vicar of the church of Bokelonddynham, deacon, to be ordained priest, as in the preceding letter.

74. Same day. Licence for James de Morton, rector of the church of Rode, subdeacon, to study for two years.

75. Bishop Ralph to Master Walter de Hull.
Master Icherius de Concoreto has ordered the Peter's Pence to be paid before this instant feast of the Purification, we order you to cause us to have all such money before the feast of the Epiphany next.
Dogmersfeld, xvi Kal., January, A.D. 1329.

76. Bishop Ralph to the Archbishop of Canterbury.
Cum certa feoda inter vestram familiam dividenda ratione consecrationis nostre prout nobis nuper dabatur intelligi de approbata consuetudine debeantur; nos tamquam filius gratitudinis obediens et benignus volentes tam jura quam consuetudines ecclesie vestre Cantuariensis illesa in omnibus observare, vestre nuper dominationi promisimus reverende quod citra festum Natalis Domini proximo jam venturum, vestre ex causa premissa satisfaceremus familie de certa et a nobis petita

pecunie quantitate. Verum domine reverende, quia tota quantitas feodorum que a nobis tunc temporis petebatur, se ad decem et novem libras per computatas particulas extendebat, et quidam monachus, Capellanus vester, tempore consecrationis nostre nolebat desistere antequam sibi de quadraginta solidis sibi debitis ut asseruit extitit satisfactum, vestre paternitati reverende decem et septem libras residuas consueto more ut premittitur dividendas per presentium transmittimus portitorum.

We thank you for the delay granted to us.

Et si domine reverende super rumoribus nobis a Curia Romano transmissis velitis effici certiores, Vestra scire velit paternitas honoranda quod Dominus noster Papa adhuc statum nostrum non approbavit nec etiam reprobavit, sed sperant amici nostri ibidem infra tempus modicum exitum obtinere felicem. Sunt enim quidam magni in Romano Curia existentes quorum nomina ad presens subiiciemus ex causa, qui ad instantiam et procurationem quorundam in partibus Anglicanis, statum nostrum machinationibus callidis subvertere moliuntur, asserentes publice et occulte quod quia resistentibus quibusdam emulis juxta latus regium existentibus, non possumus literas domini nostri regis aliqualiter impetrare, omnia statum nostrum concernentia contra domini nostri regis beneplacitum processerunt, quorum mercedem, ipse Deus qui occulta cordium manifestat juxta sua merita retribuat in eternum.

17 Dec.

77. xv Kal., Jan., A.D. 1329. Licence for Robert atte Wallel of Stoke Michel, (Stoke lane), subdeacon, to be ordained deacon.

78. Same day. Licence for Robert de Stonyeston, deacon, to be ordained priest.

79. The official of the Court of Canterbury to Master Richard de Thistelden, official of the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

The prior and brethren of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England having intimated to us that the Bishop claims obedience from them by reason of the churches of

Northpederton, Durston, Halse, Bromfeld, and Kynemersdon, in the diocese of Bath and Wells, and that the party of the said religious men appearing before the said official as special commissary of the Bishop asked him for a copy of the commission and certificate of citation which were refused and the said religious men were pronounced to be in contempt for which they were mulcted in an immoderate sum of money to be levied from the preceptory, brethren and sisters of Boclaunde, (Minchin Buckland, near Durston). The said religious men have appealed to the apostolic see and for the protection of the court of Canterbury. We inhibit anything to prejudice that appeal and cite you to appear before us, or our commissary in the church of the Blessed Mary of Aldermary, London "proximo die juridico post Octabas sancti Hillarii episcopi."
London vi. Kal., Oct., A.D. 1329.

Fol. 10b. 80. 14 Kal., January, in the year abovesaid.
Licence for Master Richard de Middelton, rector of the church of Cherleton Makerel, clerk, to be promoted to all minor orders which he has not yet got.

81. The King's writ of distringas to the Bishop for a debt due to Joceline de Blankescumbe, clerk of Ambrose de Novo Burgo, Marshall of the Exchequer, for a horse value 6 marks, by Stephen de Steford, a clerk who has no lay fee but is beneficed.
Westminster 7th August, 3 Edward iii.

The lord received this writ xiv Kal. January and wrote to his official for execution to be made quickly.
Return. We have distrained.

82. The King's writ to the Bishop.
We command you that you cause John de Meysi, your clerk, to come before our justices, at Westminster, on the Quindene of St. Hilary to answer to Thomas de Staunton of a plea that he render to him 5 marks.
Westminster, 4th November, in the third year of our reign [A.D. 1329] Roll 129.

The lord received the writ xi Kal., January and sent it to his official. Return "Citari fecimus."

83. The Bishop to Master Walter de Hull to collect the fruits of benefices vacant.

Dogmersfeld, Tuesday, the feast of St. Stephen the protomartyr, A.D. 1329.

84. Collation of Richard Slory, of Milverton, to the parish church of Montacute, by order of the Pope. Fol. 11.

vj. Kal. Jan., in the year abovesaid. [Cancelled.]

85. Mandate to the dean of Iuelcestre and the rector of Tyngtenhull to induct Richard Slory to the vicarage of Montacute.

Same date. [Cancelled.]

86. Letter testimonial of Bishop Ralph. Fol. 11b.

John de Bradefurd, clerk, who has served us faithfully for some time, has not left our services by reason of suspicion of malice or neglect, but because he had a special affection to visit his parents, friends, and country. And therefore that his estate, conversation, or life may not be called into doubt by spiteful men we have granted to him these our letters patent in full evidence and testimony of the premises.

vi Kal., Jan., A.D. 1329.

87. Inhibition from the court of Canterbury to prevent the Bishop and Richard Slory from interfering with the vicarage of Montacute, which Robert de la Dich, the perpetual vicar had canonically obtained, and citation for the said Richard to appear before the official of Canterbury or his commissary.

London, v Kal., Jan., A.D. 1329.

Received by the Bishop iij Kal., Jan., and sent to the Archdeacon of Wells to execute.

88. Commission from the Bishop for Sir Michael de Eston, his steward, and brother John de Iford, monk of Bath, to audit the

accounts of his manors from the day of St. Mary Magdalen A.D. 1329, until Michaelmas, next.

2nd January, A.D. 1329.

Royal writ to Bishop Ralph.

89. Cause Richard de Thistelden, parson of the church of Mertoke, to come before our justices, at Westminster, on the octave of St. Hilary, to answer to the prior of Merton, touching a plea that he render to him 96 marks.

14th October, in the third year of our reign.

Received on Friday next after the Nativity of the Lord. And on 3rd January he wrote to the official to execute it.

Fol. 12. Bishop Ralph to John, Bishop of Exeter.

90. Whereas Sir Gilbert de la Thorne, rector of Bradestone, of your diocese, and Sir William, called Cabel, rector of Are (Oare), of our diocese, propose to exchange their churches, Hindered by various and arduous affairs, we cannot attend to the arrangement of the said exchange. We commit our offices to you.

Dogemersfeld, 6th January, A.D. 1329, and the first of our consecration.

91. Commission by Bishop Ralph to John, Bishop of Exeter, for an exchange of churches between Sir Gilbert de la Thorne, rector of the church of Bradestone, in the diocese of Exeter, and Sir William, called Cabel, rector of the church of Are.

6th January, A.D. 1329.

92. Commission by the Bishop to Masters Richard de Thistelden, treasurer of Wells, Lawrence de la Barre, and Michael de Eston, canons of Wells, for the execution of the provision or grace to Walter de Claudon, a poor clerk of his diocese.

8 Id., Jan., A.D. 1329. [Cancelled.]

93. Summons to a council.

Litera domini Regis de veniendo ad consilium Londonio.

Edward par la grace de Dieu Roi Dengleterre Seignur Dirlaunde et Duc Daquitaine, al honurable piere en Dieu R. par la meisme grace de Dieu Euesqe de Bathe, salutz. Come le Roi

de France nous eit assignez iornee pur totes autres iornees a treter ad lui ou od les deputez depar lui a Parys le iour de la Chandilleure prochein auenir sur les busoignes qe nous avoms a faire pardeuers lui touchantes nous et lestat de nostre dite Duchee, sur queles purce qeles sont molt chargeantes et requerent grant haste. Nous volons auoir avis et counseil auaunt le dit iour, de vous et dautres prelatz et grantz de nostre realme. Vous maundoms et chargeoms fermement enioignauntz en la foi et lamiste qe vous nous deuetz, que toutes autres choses lessees, soietz a nous a Westminster le Vendredi prochein apres la feste de seint Hillaire procheine auenir, ensemblement od les autres prelatz et grantz qe adunqes yserrount assemblez a trecter et deliuerer noz bosoignes susdites. Done souz nostre prive seal a Kenylworth le premier iour de Ianevier. Lan de nostre regne tierz. Istud mandatum dominus recepit apud Dogmersfeld die dominica in Crastino Epiphanie Domini, videlicet septimo Idus Januarii, anno Domini millesimo trescentesimo vicesimo nono.

94. Sexto Idus Januarii apud Dogmersfeld anno predicto. Licence for John Uggel, rector of the church of Southcadebury, priest, at the instance of Sir John de Moeles, knight, to absent himself from his church from the day aforesaid until the feast of St. Michael next, and to follow in the service of the said Sir John.

95. The Bishop to the dean and chapter of Wells giving his assent for them to have transcripts made from their registers and archives concerning the declaration of the right of the archdeacon of Wells. Fol. 12b.

iv Id., Jan.

96. Appointment of John de Lestelwich, our clerk, as receiver of the bishopric.

London, x Kal., February, A.D. 1329.

97. x Kal., Feb., in the year abovesaid. Special licence for Sir Richard de la More, rector of the church of Kyngeston Seymour, priest, to study,

98. Commission by Bishop Ralph to Master Walter de Hull, rector of the church of Schepton Belli Campi, to absolve Henry de Estcammel, a monk of the monastery of Mulchelneye, from excommunication.

London, ix Kal., Feb., A.D. 1329.

99. The King's writ of venire facias to the Bishop to have Hugh de Wolhampton, clerk, at Westminster, on the octaves of the Purification to answer to Master Elias Walewayn touching a plea that he render to him 10 marks.

Westminster, 23rd Jan., 3 Edward iii, A.D. 1329.

100. Mandate from the Bishop to the dean and chapter of Wells, to assign to Master Thomas de Garton, clerk, a stall in the choir and a place in the chapter, according to the effect of the apostolic letters directed to the Bishop.

London, viij Kal., Feb., A.D. 1329.

Fol. 13. 101. Bishop Ralph to the prioress and convent of Kanyngton asking them to receive Alice, the daughter of John de Northlode, as a nun, to whom he has granted his right "par resoun de nostre premiere creacion" by the request of Monsieur John Mautrauers.

London, 20th January, first year of our consecration.

102. vij Kal., Feb., A.D. 1329, at London. Commission to the chancellor of Wells to examine the inquisition made upon the vacancy of the church of Alre (Aller) to which Sir Matthew de Clyuedon, knight, presented Sir Henry Jordan, of Langesutton (Long Sutton), chaplain, and to admit and institute the presentee.

103. viij Kal., Feb., at London.

Licence for Master William de Hampton, rector of the church of Bacheworth (Badgworth) priest, to study in England all for three years.

104. Commission for Master Walter de Hulle, commissary general, to proceed in all causes and matters at the instance of parties in the diocese.

London, vij Kal., Feb., A.D. 1329.

105. vi Kal., Feb., at London, Master Robert de Luffenham, clerk, notified to the lord certain apostolic bulls and the proceedings had thereupon touching a canonry and prebend in the church of Wells. The Bishop admitted him and directed letters to the dean and chapter of Wells to await a prebend when vacant.

106. Acquittance by the Papal legate to the Bishop for 11*li.* 5*s.* Peter's Pence for the year 1329.

London, 26th Jan., A.D. 1329.

107. Bishop Ralph to Master Hugh Elys, his official, Sir Otho de Botrigan, knight, has complained to us that whereas John Le Perceual, servant (familiaris) of Sir Thomas de Berkeleye, did solemnly marry a certain Milicent de Seymor, one who causes himself to be called publicly John Talbot withholds her, mendaciously asserting a former contract of marriage with him to the very great harm of the said John Pereceual and the manifest slander of his wife. Orders the official or his deputy to examine witnesses in the next day of the consistory.

London, vi Kal., Feb., first year of our consecration.

108. Certificate of John, Bishop of Exeter, for exchange of benefices between Gilbert de la Thorne, rector of the church of Bradeston, and Sir William, called Cabel, rector of the church of Are.

Dated in our manor of Chuddelegh, xv Kal., Feb., A.D. 1329.

109. Mandate to the Archdeacon of Taunton to induct Gilbert de la Thorne to the church of Are.

London, iv Kal., Feb., A.D. 1329.

110. Bishop Ralph to the Abbot of Glaston.

Supplicacionem vestram intelleximus continentem quod quia ecclesia de Schapwike a villa ejusdem per grandem distanciam situatur de quo tam dicta ecclesia quam parochiani ejusdem non modica dispendia paciuntur, nostram licenciam ut in villa de Schapwike possit ecclesia edificari de nouo considerando pericula concedere curaremus, &c. Scripta apud Bernes iuxta London, xxviij die Januarii.

111. iii Kal., Feb., A.D. 1329, at London. Special licence for Sir William de Craudon, priest, rector of the church of Douelysswake (Dowlish Wake near Ilminster), to absent himself from his church for a year.

Fol. 14 112. Letter from Henry, Earl of Lancaster, to the Pope informing him that the election of Bishop Ralph was pleasing to the King and to all the great men, peers, and prelates in the parts of England, and that the King had delivered to him the temporalities "as to an excellent man."
London, as above.

113. The Bishop appoints Master Nicholas de Bathonia, clerk, his proctor in the matter of the church of Montacute in which he was cited to appear by the court of Canterbury.
Dogmersfeld, Kal., Feb., A.D. 1329.

114. Bishop Ralph to his official.
Geoffrey de Camera the bearer of these presents has told us that certain fees ought to have been paid by the rectors of Estkantokkesheued, Westkantokkesheued, and Kylue amongst the household (familia) of our immediate predecessor by pretext of the dedication of those churches. The rectors have not paid, therefore we order you that, if the premises are true, you compel them to payment.
Dogmersfeld, 3 Feb., first year of our consecration.

115. Bishop Ralph to Roger, Bishop of Salisbury, asking him for licence to celebrate orders in his diocese, as he cannot go into the parts of his diocese with honour.
Dogmersfeld, 4 Feb., A.D. 1329.

Fol. 14b. 116. Nones of Feb., at Dogmersfeld in the year aforesaid. Institution of Walter Le Waleys, rector of the church of Horsynton, to the chapel of Suthchuryton, to which he was presented by Sir Theobald Russel, knight. And the chapel which according to the true value is estimated at 20*s.* annually began to be vacant xj Kal. Nov., A.D. 1329, by the resignation of Sir William de Herleston, the last rector or perpetual chaplain. Letters to the Archdeacon of Wells to induct.

117. Appointment of John de Ilford, monk of Bath, as sacristan in the church of Bath.

Dogmersfeld, viij Id., Feb., A.D. 1329.

118. Bishop Ralph to the prior and chapter of Bath.

Whereas we caused brother William de Haukesbury to be absolved from the office of the sacristy and appointed John de Ilford, we command you that you allow the said John to exercise the office freely and cause the keys and other things to be delivered to him.

Dogmersfeld, viij Id., Feb., A.D. 1329.

119. Summons to attend the Parliament to be held at Winchester on the Feast of St. Gregory the Pope next.

Teste at Eltham, 25 Jan., 4 Edward iii.

The Bishop received this writ at Dogmersfeld, 7 Feb., A.D. 1329. [Printed in Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament, p. 153.]

120. vi Id., Feb., A.D. 1329. Collation of Master Walter de Bruton, S.T.P., to the prebend of Tymbrescumbe in the church of Wells. Mandate same day to the dean of Wells to induct. Fol. 15.

121. Bishop Ralph to the Pope.

Offers him 2,000 florins of Florence, hopes to be able to offer more, but his church has been left to him in a state of poverty because his predecessor left the houses ruinous that they could scarcely be repaired with 5 or 6,000 florins.

Dogmersfeld, 8 Feb. [Cancelled.]

Bishop Ralph to Matthew Cardinal priest titular of SS. John and Paul.

Sane domine confidentissime cum iam propter emulorum suggestiones falsissimas et dolosas multiplicius destitutus ignorem quid agere debeam. Hoc solum michi video tutum refugium ut ad vos meum singulare presidium oculos manibus expansis conuertam cum supplicacione affectuosissima et deuota tante celsitudinis precellenciam corditer interpellans quatinus pro conservacione et consolidacione status mei conceptam erga personam meam beneuolenciam solitam et solertem, vestram sic continuare

diligenciam dignetur tam pia affecta paternalis, ut non efficiar sine culpa opprobrium hominum plebis abjectio, ac populi in derisum; sed finem felicem capere valeat et effectum negocium memoratum pro firmissimo capientes, quod quicquid circa consecracionem meam hactenus factum erat, de sana conscienciæ omnium Cantuariensis provincie prelatorum assensu, ac utriusque juris-peritorem tocius Anglia excellencius expertorum consilio emanavit, tam clero quam populo applaudente, nec Romane Curie nec alteri cuicumque offense materiam ministrare, sed pocius complacere presertim cum tempus expectassem maturum, ned quicquam canonice patuisset, propter quod dicta consecracio debuerat prorogare. Non enim omni spiritui est credendum quia rumor non est diu quasi per totam Angliam inoleuit quod quidam episcopatus fuerat reservatus. Cujus tamen contrarium per summum pontificem imposterum extitit declaratum. Hec et similia domine clementissime velitis, si placet, ad mei excusacionem veracem proponere, oraque iniquia loquencium obturare.

Sub ista eadem data et tenore premisso scriptum erat domino Gwillelmo Dei gracia Episcopo Sabiniensi, sacrosancte Romane ecclesie Cardinali, per totum ut supra.

Fol. 15b. Bishop Ralph to nine Cardinals, viz.:—Peter, Bishop of Pelestrina, Jocelin, Bishop of Albano, Bertrand, titular of St. Mary in Aquiro, Raymund, titular of St. Mary Nova, Neapolio, titular of St. Adrean, Luke, titular of St. Mary in Via Lata, Peter, titular of St. Peter in Montibus, Peter, Bishop of Porto, Hanibald, titular of St. Lawrence in Luca. In the same tenour as the preceding letter.

Fol. 16. Bishop Ralph to Peter de Mortuo Mari tituli St. Stephen in Celio Monte, Cardinal priest, thanking him in very sincere terms for defending him and "conservacione status mei." (The following note appears at the end of the letter).

"Per totum ut in proxima litera precedente."

Bishop Ralph to Master Robert de Wygornia, J.C.P. John Lutterel, and Edmund de Kermerdyn, (Carmarthen) order of friars preachers, doctors of S. T. in the Roman court, thanking them for their help in his affairs.

122. Bishop Ralph to his official of Wells, the dean of Iuelcestra, and the rector of the church of Tyngtenhull.

We have received the mandate of the official of the court of Canterbury. Recites the appeal by Richard de la Dich against Richard Slory and the decree of the court of Canterbury finding that Richard Slory was the true vicar of Montacute, and gives them power to do all things contained in that decree.

Dogmersfeld, v Id., Feb., A.D. 1329.

123. iij Id., Feb. A.D. 1329, at Dogmersfeld. Letters dimissory for Andrew Lutterel, rector of the church of Est Kantokkesheued, acolyte, to take the order of the subdeacon.

124. Bishop Ralph to the Pope.

Ad vestram siquidem ut audiui relatum extitit sanctitatem quod licet de reservacione ecclesiarum mearum ab aliquibus optinata michi legitime constitisset, me feci perperam in contemptum vestre beatitudinis et sedis apostolice consecrari; super quo verum Deum saluatorem meum in die iudicii ad huius rei testimonium inuocabo, quod quecumque reservacio sic pretensa; semper in diem hodiernum me reddidit ignorantem, nec adhuc prout vera fatear coram Deo, michi constare potuit aliqualiter de eadem. Set iuris ordine in omnibus observato cum temporis expectacione matura, dominus Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus consecracionis michi tempus prout sanctiones canonice dictaverint, prefigebat. Verum, clementissime pater, quid ex eo tempore sic prefixo, aut munus consecracionis subire, aut a dispositione iuris communis recedere totaliter oportebat. consecracionem ipsam non impetuose non subito non latenter, set de prouido et deliberato consilio episcoporum Cantuariensis prouincie, utriusque eciam iuris peritorum per totam Angliam famosius expertorum ac aliorum nobilium et magnorum finaliter adimpleri, credens veraciter et indubie Deo teste per hoc redemptoris mei et vestre ac ecclesiarum mearum satisfacere voluntati, maxime cum nichil canonicum obstitisset, quod dictam consecracionem de iure suspendere debuerat. Dignatur ergo vestra clementissima celsitudo habere piissime filii vestri deuotissimi quo ad suggestiones premissas innocentiam excusatam. Fol. 17.

Dated 4 Feb.

125. Litera missa domino Regi super excusatione prebende de Tymbrescumbe.

A tresexcellent Prince et soun seignur lige si lui plest, sire Edward par la grace de Dieu Roi Dengleterre, Seignur Dirlaund et Ducs Daquitaine, le soen humble et deuout Chapelein Rauf par la suffrance de Dieu Euesqe de Baa et de Welles, obeissaunce due, oue quauncqil siet et puist de seruice de reuerence et donur.

Treshonurable seignur ioe resceu voz lettres icoe Meskyrdi le xiiij. iour de Feuerer a hure de prime, par les queles vous me deignastes prier, qe ioe donasse la prouendre de Tymbrescumbe vacaunte en ma eglise de Welles par la mort Thomas Hereward darein prouendrer dycelle a vostro trescher clerk sire Richard de Bury portaunt vostre priuie seal. Veilletz sauoir treshonurable seignur enla foi que ioe doi a Dieu et a vous, qe sis iours auaunte coe qe voz dites lettres me vindrent, coment qe ioe fuisse tenuz et obligez al auauncement de diuers clers ioe donai la dite prouendre a un poure Maistre de Deuynete, cest a sauoir Maistre Wauter de Burton soulement par regard de charite; le quel si est orendreit a Welles de prendre possessioun en la prouendre susdite. Et autrement sire en bone leaute, si ele eust este la meillure prouendre de toute leglisle, ioe la eusse vouchez sauue par regard de charite et de vostre priere au dit sire Richard, le quel ioe tienke a moun iuggement prodholms et vaillauntz a chescun benefice. Parquei treshonurable seignur ioe prie souereinement de cuer a vostre treshonurable hautesse qe de coe qe ioe ne puis a ceste foiz parfaire vostre priere, me veilletz auoir si vous plest bonement excusez, et sire en toutes autres choses qe fare puisse, vous me troueretz auxi prest a voz commaundementz, come nul clerke de vostre roialme susdit. Nostre seignur Iehu Crist vous domt bone vie et lunge al profit de nostre poeple, encressauntz voz honurs. Escrite a Dogemersfeld, le quatirzime iour de Feuerer auauntdit.

126. xiv Kal., March, A.D. 1329, at Dogmersfeld. Collation of John de Sutton, priest to the church of Yeuelton. Letters to the Archdeacon of Wells to induct.

Fol. 17b. 127. Summons to attend the council to be held at Winchester on Saturday next before the feast of St. Gregory the Pope next

and the convocation of the province of Canterbury at the same place v Id. March next.

Orseth, xvi Kal., March, 4 Edw. iii. Printed in Wilkin's Concilia p. 557.

128. Inhibition by the official of the Court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph pending an appeal by Master Robert de Wambergh, Archdeacon of Wells, against Simon Montacute touching the Archdeaconry of Wells which the latter claimed; and order to cite the said Simon to appear before him. Fol. 18.

London, xv Kal., March, A.D. 1329.

The Lord received this inhibition in the great hall of Westminster xj. Kal. March.

129. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph commanding him to admit a fit parson to the Archdeaconry of Wells at his presentation, the King having recovered it before the justices at Westminster by a certain inquest taken between him and the bishop. Roll. 405, Westminster, 12 Feb., 4 Edw. iii [A.D. 1330].

130. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph prohibiting him from presenting to the Archdeaconry of Wells to which the King had presented Master Simon de Monte Acuto by reason of the see being vacant and in the hand of King Edward our grandfather.

Teste at the Tower of London, 16 Feb., in the fourth year of our reign.

The lord received these two royal writs "in parva aula Westmonasterii, xj. Kaln. Marcii per manus domini Johannis Mautravers. Et incontinenti dominus assignauit illis qui predicta negocia prosequebantur, diem crastinum proximum subsequentem ad audiendum responsionem domini episcopi Bathon' et Wellen' super contentis in brevibus antidictis." Fol. 18b.

131. Mandate of the King to Bishop Ralph to admit Simon de Montagu to the archdeaconry of Wells. At Windsor 20 Feb., 4 Edw. iii. [A.D. 1330].

The lord received this letter at Bernes juxta London 20 Feb., by the hand of Master John de Hildesleye, clerk. And because the lord could not immediately admit the King's presentee, he

sent his excuse by letter to the illustrious lord the King of England by the same Master J. de Hildesleie in the words underwritten.

Fol. 18b. Responsio domine episcopi ad predictum mandatum domini regis.

A tres excellent Prince et son Seignur lige si lui plest, sire Edward par la grace de dieu noble Roi Dengleterre Seignur Dirlaunde et Ducs Aquitaine, le soen humble et deuout chapelein Rauf par la suffrance de Dieu Euesqe de Baa et de Welles, obeissaunce due oue quauncqil siet et puet de seruice de reuerence et honur. Trescher seignur ioe rescue voz treshonurables lettres le xxxij. iour de Feuerer par les meins de vostre cher clerk Mestre Johan de Hildesleie portour dy celles par les qeles sire ioe ai entenduz a grant dolour de cuer qe len vous ad fet assauoir qe par la ou nadgaires par agard de vostre Court eussietz recoueri de vostre droit real par vostre bref de *Quare impedit* vers moi vostre presentement al Ercedeknee de Welles, et sur ce bref de iugement moi soit venuz de resceuire vostre presentez al Ercedeknee auantdit nient contrestaunt moun recleim ; ioe sanz auer regard de ce qe vous auetz recoueri vostre dit presentement si come est deuant dit, ne volei receiure vostre dit presentez, mes voluntrement lai mis en delai en desplesaunce de vostre treshonurable seignurie qe durement me poise. Veillez sauer tresnoble seignur qe ioe resceu deuoutement vostre dit bref de iugement par les meins vostre cher et foial monsieur Johan Mautrauers, et tantost sire sanz faire plus lunge delai et respit, ioe assignai a ceux qe suwirent la dite busoigne pur vostre dit presentez, lendemein prochein suaunt pur oir ma repounse. Et purce treshonurable seignur qe vous moi commandastes par voz dites lettres qe ioe resceusse hastiuement vostre presentez al Ercedekne auantdit solonc leffect du dit bref de iugement. Veillez sauer tresnoble seignur qe en la foi que ioe doi a Dieu et a vous auant ce qe nul bref ou autre lettre moi vint de vostre hautesse. Ioe resceu une lettre de la court de Caunterbire que leu appele une inhibicion par quele ioe sui defenduz en vertue de obedience et de mon serment, que ioe ne face riens en preiudice de celi qe tient le dit Ercedekne taunt come lapel y dure. Et auxi treshonurable seignur il mest enioint par la dite court de Canterbire qe ie face somondre

Mestre Simon de Montagu vostre dit presentez dy estre certein iour deuant lofficial de la Court de Canterbire ou deuant son lieu tenaunt, a respondre illoeges a Mestre Robert de Wamberge qe tient lercedeknee auantdit. Parqui treshonurable seignur, tant come mes meins sount liees par cele court, ioe ne puis rien fere solonc coe qe gentz de bien le sieuent, sanz offendr̃ Dieu et droiture, ne sanz blemir mon serment et obedience susdit. Surqui purce qe ioe voudrei qe toutez gentz seussent la verite de ceste reponse, ioe fis porter la dite inhibicioun deuant le dit Mestre Johan de Hildesleie et li fesoi bailler la copie dy celle. Parqui ie prie humblement a vostre benigne hautesse, qe endroit de ce qe ie ne puis a ceste foiz pur les causes susdites resceiure vostre dit presentez, me veillez auer si vous plest graciousement excusez, et a plustost sire mes meins soient desliees par la court susdite vous moi troueretz en cele chose et en totes autres qe faire puisse par droit et bone conscience, auxi prestz et appareillez a fere voz commaundementz' come nul clerk viuaunt. Et Dieu vous veille lung temps garder en saunte et en bone vie, al honur de Dieu, a bon gouernail de vostre poeple et e ferme meintenance de lestat de seinte eglise.

Escrite a Bernes pres de Loundres, le xxij iour de Feuerer.

Ista litera liberatur Magistro. I. de Hildesleie.

132. Bishop Ralph to Hugh Elys his official ordering him to execute the Pope's mandate, dated the day before the Nones of May, in the thirteenth year of his pontificate, ordering the excommunication of William de Cherleton, clerk, if it were true that he had laid violent hands on Adam de la More, clerk, of the diocese of Oxford, no appeal being allowed. Fol. 19.

Dogemeresfeld, v Kal., March, A.D. 1329.

133. The official of the Court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

Peticio Roberti de la Dych perpetui vicarii ecclesie parochialis ville de Monte Acuto vestre diocesis nobis exhibita continebat, quod licet idem Robertus dictam vicariam cum omnibus suis iuribus et pertinentiis uniuersis fuisset et sit canonice assecutus, ipsamque iuxta huiusmodi assecucionis effectum aliquamdiu possedisset pacifice et quiete, fuissetque ex

parte eiusdem in possessione huiusmodi existentis, aut metuentis ex quibusdam causis probabilibus et verisimilibus coniecturis sibi posse circa ius et possessionem quod et quam habuit in vicaria predicta graue generari preiudicium in futurum, ne quis in ipsius preiudicium circa premissa vel eorum aliquod quicquam attemptaret seu faceret attemptari, ad sedem apostolicam et pro tuicione Curie Cantuariensis palam et publice ac legitime prouocatum; quidam tamen Ricardus Slory de Miluerton dicta prouocacione que ipsum verisimiliter non latebat obstante, post et contra eam dictum Robertum in possessione dicte vicarie tunc canonice existentem, huiusmodi vicaria sua spoliauit, spoliarive mandauit . . . Unde ex parte euisdem sencientis se ex hoc indebite pregrauari, ad dictas sedem et Curiam extitit legitime appellatum. Quo circa vobis cum ea qua decet reuerencia, auctoritate dicte Curie committimus et mandamus firmiter iniungentes, quatinus prefato Ricardo ac ceteris omnibus et singulis quibus ius exigit inhiberi inhibeatis, ne pendente in Curia Cantuar' huiusmodi tuitore(*sic*)appellacionis negocio quicquam hac occasione in dicte partis appellantis preiudicium attemptent aut faciant aliqualiter attemptari . . Citetis etiam seu citari faciatis peremptorie prefatum Ricardum partem ut premittitur, appellatum, quod compareat coram nobis vel nostro commissario in ecclesia beate Marie de Aldermarichurch, London, quarto die iuridico post festum sancto Gregorii Papi . . .

Datum London vij. Kal., Marcii, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ vicesimo nono.

Istam inhibicionem recepit dominus apud Dogemersfeld quinto kalen. Marcii anno predicto. Et eodem scripsit die, officiali suo pro execucione facienda . . .

iv Kal., March, A.D. 1329.

134. Letters dimissory for Master Stephen Tripp, rector of the church of Westcammel, subdeacon, and Robert Sprot, of Est koker, vicar of the church of Aston, that they may be promoted to the order of priests.

Fol. 19. Bishop Ralph to the Pope.

Exaudi domine iusticiam meam intende deprecacionem meam.

Si secundum dolorum meorum multitudinem quibus crudeliter me affligunt et vehementer angunt obloquentes emuli, eciam preces solas multiplicare presumerem coram vobis pater et domine mi omnium Domini vicario generali ; vestri sacratissimi principatus auditum negociorum uniuersi orbis occupatum strepitibus offenderem sicut reor pocius quam placarem. Set ut sine vestre sanctitatis tedio illis zizannia seminantibus qui vestram sanctissimam celsitudinem aduersum me filium vestrum humilem incitant satisfaciam, breuem hanc cum tribulato psalmista exclamo clausulam. Exaudi domine iusticiam meam, intende deprecacionem meam. Iusticiam inquam meam, in eo quod omnia eleccionem, confirmacionem, consecracionem que meam contingencia, secundum legitimos sacrorum canonum tramites iudicio peritissimorum tocius Anglie sunt completa. Quamobrem eorum regulatus iudicio et inclinatus consilio, pretacta, pater sanctissime, sic admisi. Nec mee innotuit conscientiae, quod collacionem ecclesiarum predictarum vestra summa et plena sub Deo auctoritas, sibi specialiter aut generaliter reseruaret, Immo si hoc mea tenuisset conscientia, nullatenus predicta prosequi presumpsissem, qui nunquam gradum aut beneficium, cum offensa creatoris mei habui prout estimo vel ambiui. Idcirco sanctitatis vestre prouolutus sacrosanctis pedibus deprecacionem meam connecto implorans, primum suppliciter, ne diuino vestro insideat cordi de me suspicio quod aliqui in vestri apostolatus contemptum attemptare presumpserim, quem solum professus sum Dei mei in terris vicarium loco Petri. Ac deinde quatinus si dominacionis vestre singularem preeminenciam offendi in aliquo, quod tamen nullatenus mea consciencia valet discernere ; vestra deiformis clemencia, remittere pie velit, fideliorem ac deuociorem filium in prosequendis apostolicis beneplacitis, nullum in Anglia ut teneo de Dei confisus gracia habitura.

Dogmersfeld, 28th Feb.

135. Day before the Kal., March, A.D. 1329. Letters dimissory for Adam de Brente, rector of the church of Cosynton, clerk, to receive all minor orders and the order of subdeacon. Fol. 19b.

136. Same day. Same for Walter de Weston, clerk, to receive all minor orders.

137. Same day. Licence for Master Walter de Ceddre, rector of Saunford Bret', to study for a year.

138. Same day. Letters dimissory for William Hardy, of Sowy, clerk, to receive all minor orders.

139. Dispensation for William de Westcote, clerk, to be promoted to all orders and to hold an ecclesiastical benefice notwithstanding illegitimacy.
Dogmersfeld, Kal., March, A.D. 1329.

140. On the same day. Letters dimissory as follows.
For William de Westcote, clerk, for minor orders. William Broun, rector of the church of Lamzete, acolyte, for order of subdeacon. John de Cosynton, subdeacon, for order of deacon. Walter Caynel, of Bruyton, deacon, for order of priest. Robert Colle, of Bruyton, deacon, for order of priest. Hugh Gyge, of Somerton, subdeacon, for order of deacon.

141. On the 1st day of March in the year aforesaid the lord wrote to the prioress and convent of Barewe to admit Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Hamon le fiz Richard, knight, and to make her a nun. The lord claimed this by custom.

Fol. 20. 142. Commission by the Bishop to the chancellor of Wells concerning the vacancy of the vicarage of Puryton by reason of an exchange with the vicarage of St. Nicholas, Bristol, diocese of Worcester.
Dogmersfeld, 9th March, A.D. 1329.

Bishop Ralph to the Pope.

143. Sane nuper intellexi quod quidam honoris cupidi inuidia liuidi, ac ut verbo utar beati Ioromini 'canes mei' vestrum sanctissimum paternum affectum nituntur aduersus innocentum filium concitare, quem forsitan si possent, morderent libencius quam latrarent. Clamant enim ut didici, quod in contemptum sacrosancte sedis et vestre eminencie apostolice presumpsi in Anglia consecrari, set ab hoc peccato paganitatis altissimus me preservet.

He is ready to make satisfaction if he has offended.
Dogmersfeld, 6th March.

The Chancellor and University of Oxford to the Pope.

Hinc pater sanctissime pro venerabili viro domino Radulpho de Salopia, Bathon' et Wellen' episcopi dudum Cancellario nostro sacro pagine professore, doctore decretorum et magistro in artibus viro siquidem virtuoso in spiritualibus et temporalibus circumspecto et aliarum virtutum dotibus multipliciter insignito cuius fama singulis nota adeo redolet et crebrescit in partibus Anglicanis, quod recommendacione non credimus indigere Piam sanctitatis vestre beneuolenciam requirimus precibus deuotiuis, quatinus statum ipsius per eleccionem canonicam et concordem absque ambicionis vicio diuinitus ut creditur inchoatum, liberalitate sedis apostolice solita consummare, clarificare et corroborare dignemini intuitu crucifixi, &c.

In congregacione nostra Oxonfordie.

The prior and convent of the order of Friars Preachers to the Pope interceding on behalf of Bishop Ralph. "Vita semper et moribus approbatus deuotus Deo et pacificus in conuictu. Unde quod caput ecclesie venerandum contemptseret, quem nunquam audiuimus minimos neglexisse, apud nos nullo modo veraciter credi potest."

Bishop Ralph to the Cardinal of SS. John and Paul on the same subject.

"Sane domine reuerende popularis relacio quoddam de me scandalum diuulgauit."

Dogmersfeld, 6th March.

144. Institution of Roger de Warrewik, priest, to the perpetual chantry in the church of Pokynton vacant by the death of Andrew de Tettewell, to which he was presented by the lady Alice de Knouill (Knoll or Knoyle?), formerly the wife of Sir John de Knouill, knight. Fol. 21.

Dogmersfeld, Non., March, A.D. 1329.

Letters to the Archdeacon of Tanton to induct.

145. Certificate of Bishop Ralph to the Papal Nuncio of the number of vacant benefices.

The prebendal church of Tymbrescumbe, assessed at 8 marks, and its net value is worth 2 marks by the year.

The parish church of Westcammel, taxed at 20 marks, the residue as estimated at 20 marks by the year.

The parish church of Axebrugge which is taxed at 6½ marks, the true value of which is 10 *li.* by the year.

The perpetual vicarage of Montacute, taxed at 100*s.*, and its residue is taxed at as much.

The parish church of Henton St. George, taxed at 10 marks, and its residue as worth 14 marks by the year.

The parish church of Nettelcumbe, taxed at 12 marks, its residue is worth 12 marks.

The perpetual vicarage of Kynesham, taxed at 100*s.*, the residue is estimated at 40*s.*

London, xij Kal., Feb., A.D. 1329.

There is a marginal note that this certificate should be inserted in the ninth folio preceding, *i.e.*, fol. 12b., immediately after the letter from the D. and Ch. of Wells.

146. The Bishop to the King. Sends Masters Thomas de Evesham and Robert de Chigewell as his proxies for the first day of the Parliament at Winchester, on Saturday next before the feast of St. Gregory the Pope.

Dated at Dogmersfeld, on Friday next before the feast of St. Gregory the Pope, A.D. abovesaid.

147. iv Id., March, at Winchester. Letters dimissory for Master Stephen Tripp, rector of Westcammel, deacon, to be promoted to the order of priest.

148. The Bishop appoints Gyboun de la Chaumbre farm bailiff of his manor of Kyngesbury.

At Crauleye near Winchester, Tuesday next after the day of of St. Gregory the Pope, in the first year of our consecration.

149. The Bishop commits to Master Walter de Banewell, clerk of Wells, the custody of the consistory registers in his

diocese "quamdiu nobis placuerit et se laudabiliter gesserit in eodem."

Crauleye (Crawley) near Winchester, xvij Kal., April, A.D. 1329.

150. Letter to the official and commissary to admit the said Walter de Banewell as registrar of the consistories.

Same place and date.

151. Same date, at Winchester. Dispensation for Sir John de Rysingdon, rector of Yeuele, priest, at the instance of Sir John Mautrauers, to be absent from his church for a year.

152. Same date, at Crauleye near Winchester. Dispensation for Hugh de la More, rector of Clowesworth, priest, to be absent until Christmas next.

153. xvi Kal., April, in the year abovesaid. Letters dimissory for Richard Frene, clerk, that he may be ordained by John, Bishop of Oxford, to all minor orders.

154. xv Kal., April, A.D. 1329, at Crauleye near Winchester Nicholas Fyfyde, rector of Lutton (Litton), subdeacon, to the order of deacon.

155. xiv Kal., April, in the year aforesaid, at Winchester, the lord committed his duties to the venerable father John, Bishop of Exeter, that he may reconcile the cemetery of the parish church of Miluerton, polluted by the effusion of blood.

156. Same date. Institution of Richard Bertelmeu, clerk, to the church of Culue (Kilve), at the presentation of Sir Simon de Forneaus, knight, in the person of Thomas de Botynton his proxy. The said church began to be vacant xiiij. Kal., Feb., last by the death of Sir Peter atte Brygge, the last rector. It is taxed at 15 marks. Letters to the Archdeacon of Taunton to induct. The proxy of the said Thomas was sealed with the seal of the Dean of Bruggewalteri, under date at Ouerstanweye (Over Stowey), Kal., March, A.D. 1329. Fol. 22.

Marginal note—"Ista institutio non processit."

157. Commission from the Bishop to the Chancellor of Wells to institute the said presentee to the rectory of Culue.

"Post inquisitionem nobis demandatam intellexerimus quod presentatus ille simul et semel corona et vestibus utitur stragulatis de quo idem esse debeat inhabilis per tempus in Clementinis constitucionibus limitatum." Crauleye near Winchester.

xiij Kal., April, A.D. 1329.

158. The same day and place commission for the official, T. de Retford, the Chancellor, and Lawrence de la Barre, Canon of Wells, to provide Robert de la Dich, a poor clerk, with an ecclesiastical benefice at the presentation and collation of the Prior and Convent of Montacute.

159. x Kal., April, A.D. 1329, at Dogmersfeld. Institution of Sir Robert Lidezate, priest, to the church of Enemere (Enmore), at the presentation of Sir Baldwin Malet, knight, lord of Enemere. The said church began to be vacant, iv Nones March last, by the death of Master John de Drayton, last rector. It is taxed at 6 marks.

Letters to the Archdeacon of Taunton to induct.

160. Bishop Ralph to his official and his commissary general.

The Master and Brethren of the Hospital of St. John, of the city of Bath, have complained that certain sons of iniquity, unmindful of the safety of their souls, whose names are unknown, as they assert, entered the enclosures of the said religious men at Brumelrugge, Radenemede, Rokeshey, and Fryth, and yet enter upon them doing damage to their crops, &c. Orders the malefactors to be excommunicated if they do not desist.

Dogmersfeld, x Kal., April, A.D. 1329.

Fol. 22b. 161. Bishop Ralph to the Pope.

Sane ut didici quidam honoris cupidi consilium inierunt per adinuenciones detractoriás et iniquas, famam meam preseruante Deo hucusque teste populo integram maculare et personam ineptam reddere ut in beneficio succedant, ad quam ut estimo non humanus fauor extulit, set sola diuina gracia vocauit. Latrant enim me in contemptum sacrosancte Romane sedis

apostolice, ac vestre dignitatis eminencie, consecracionem episcopalem vestro consensu preuenisse, quod teste Deo et bona consciencia tamquam blasphemum semper execrabar . . . . Vestre igitur paterne benignitati, consilium Achitofel placeat dissipare, et contra serpentinos morsus detractorum, filium protegere innocentem.

Written in the city of Winchester, 20 March.

Bishop Ralph to the Pope.

Vester sim filius humilis obediens et deuotus qui electionem de me factam tanquam ius mihi competens legitime absque consciencie scrupulo prosequebar, consecracionem meam deliberato iudicio episcoporum et totius Anglie peritissimorum finaliter adipiscens, nec michi Deo teste innotuerit quouis modo, ecclesias meas supradictas fuisse dispositioni vestre si que facta fuerit reseruatas, dignetur vestra clemencia paternalis filium innocentem protegere.

Dogmersfeld, 24 March.

Bishop Ralph to Cardinal Matthew, titular of SS. John and Paul.

Hinc est domine reverende quod die confectionis presencium literarum fui personaliter in Parliamento domini regis apud Wyntoniam conuocato, ad quod tam proceres et prelati quam clerus et Communitates tocius Anglie communiter sunt vocati, et laudato Altissimo, dominum nostrum regem et reginam matrem ipsius, et omnes magnates alios indistincte, michi esse reperio tam verbis quam factis beniuolos et benignos. Nec est aliquod consilium aut congregacio populorum, quin dominus rex michi mandet meam ibidem presenciam exhibere: set tamen literas suas non possum aliqualiter impetrare, quibusdam meis minus beniuolis resistentibus, et ne sibi posset obici vel impingi quod pro diuersis in suis supplicacionibus variaret; et ideo ad dictarum literatum regiarum impetracionem ad presens aliqualiter non insisto: sperans quod Dei et vestro presidio mediante, dominus noster Papa statum meum aliqualiter non subvertet.

Winchester, 20 March.

The University of Oxford to the Pope on behalf of Bishop Ralph. Fol. 23.

Intimamus dictum reverendum patrem inter prelatos regni Anglie fore virum eminentis sciencie, &c. Quidam tamen ut refertur vestre sanctitati suggerere non desistunt, contemptum dicto episcopo circa premissa imponentes. Suggerunt enim ut est dictum quod reseruacio predictarum ecclesiarum in partibus Anglicanis notorie fuit scita, et postquam idem episcopus de ipsa reseruacione certitudinem habuisset, se fecit in contemptum sedis apostolice nihilominus consecrari. Nos vero . . . securius innotescimus . . . quod quecunque reservacio sic suggesta, apud nos in universitate predicta nullatenus erat scita, &c.

162. Licence by John, Bishop of Winchester, for Bishop Ralph to ordain clerks in the diocese of Winchester until the Feast of St. Michael.

Merewell, xij Kal., April, A.D. 1329.

ix Kal., April, A.D. abovesaid.

163. In the diocese of Winchester, Bishop Ralph, in the chapel of his manor of Dogmersfeld, ordained Master Walter de Teteneye, rector of the church of Syresham, diocese of Lincoln, to the order of subdeacon.

164. Licence for Robert de Baldok, canon of Wells, to act as confessor.

Dogemeresfeld, ix Kal., April, A.D. 1329.

Fol. 23b. Hic mutatur annus Domini millesimus tricentessimus tricesimus.

165. Collation of Sir William de Melebourne, priest, to the canonry and prebend of Shaldeford, Wells, vacant by exchange with the prebend of Kynewaston in the King's free chapel of Wolverhampton.

Dogmersfeld, iij Kal., April, A.D. 1330.

Same date. Letters to the Archdeacon of Wells to induct.

166. iv Non., April, A.D. abovesaid, at Dogmersfeld. Institution of John Bryan, priest, to the vicarage of Wyncaulton, vacant by the death of William de Essex.

Taxed at 5 marks.
Letters to the Archdeacon of Wells to induct.

167. iv Non., April, A.D. abovesaid. Letters dimissory for Robert de Mora, rector of the church of Axebrugg, subdeacon, to be promoted to deacon.

Same date. Same for Simon Puge, subdeacon.

167. Tercio Nonarum Aprilis anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ tricesimo apud Dogemersfeld, dominus concessit officium apparitoris in tota sua diocese Ricardo de Derby clerico. Et super hoc fecit ei literas patentes quamdiu domino placuerit duraturas. Scripsit etiam dominus officiali suo et Magistro Waltero de Hull commissario generali conjunctim et divisim, quod dictum Ricardum admitterent, et ipsum preficerent in officio prelibato, sub data qua prius.

168. Tertio Nonarum Aprilis anno Domini et loco predictis, Fol. 23b.
dominus commesit vices suas Magistro Thome de Retford ecclesie Wellensis Cancellario, ad introducendum penitentes quoscumque in ecclesiam Wellen' cathedralem prout retroactis temporibus fieri consueuit, hac die Iouis in cena domini. Et hoc tantummodo ista vice.

169. Day before the Nones of April, A.D. 1330.
Admission of William de Stowe, clerk, to a stall in the church of Wells.

170. Bishop Ralph to his commissary general ordering him to take security from those who have not paid the fruits reserved for three years.
Same date.

171. Same date. Letters dimissory for Adam de Brente, rector Fol. 24.
of the church of Cosynton, acolyte, to be promoted to subdeacon.

172. Bishop Ralph to John, Bishop of Exeter, asking him to provide Master Thomas de Pontesbury, J.C.P. and L.D. with a prebendal benefice.
4 April.

173. Non. April, A.D. 1330. Letters to the commissary general to sequestrate the goods of Sir Robert de Haselschawe, late provost of Wells.

174. viij Id., April, A.D. 1330, at Dogmersfeld, the lord, by virtue of a commission made to him by the keeper of the spiritualties of the diocese of Salisbury, vacant, in a matter of exchange between the rector of the church of Sevenhampton (Seavington) and the perpetual vicar of Weremenystre, diocese of Sarum, admitted Sir John de Uphull, priest, then rector of Sevenhampton, at the king's presentation, to the perpetual vicarage of Wremenystre, in the person of John de Pytteneye, clerk, his proxy. At the same day and hour he admitted Sir Thomas de Chelreye as perpetual vicar of Weremenystre. Letters to the Archdeacon of Taunton to induct.

Fol. 24b. 175. vij Id., April. At Dogmersfeld, diocese of Winchester, in the parish church of the same, Bishop Ralph, by the licence of the Bishop of Winchester, ordained Adam de Brente, rector of the church of Cosynton, to the order of deacon.

176. x Kal., May, A.D. 1330. Institution of Sir William Raspyn, priest, to the church of Wydecombe (Withycombe), at the presentation of Sir Walter de Merieth.
Letters to the Archdeacon of Taunton to induct.

177. xi Kal., May, A.D. 1330. At Bernes near Fulham. Letters dimissory for Master Walter de Glandon, rector of the church of Mere, acolyte, to be promoted to subdeacon.

178. Same date. Licence for the same Walter to study for a year in England.

179. Eighth Id., May, same year. Licence for Adam de Brente, rector of Cosyngton, to study for a year in England.

180. Same date. Commission for the Chancellor of Wells to institute and induct Richard Payn, priest, to the vicarage of Estpennard, at the presentation of the Abbot and Convent of Glaston.

181. Commission for Master Robert de Hereward, Archdeacon of Tanton, to enquire concerning an exchange of churches which Sir Henry, rector of Cloteworthi (Clatworthy) and Robert, rector of Doulisch (Dowlish), desire to make, and to institute them.

Dogmersfeld, 8th May, A.D. 1330.

182. Licence for the Bishop of Llandaff to celebrate orders in the diocese of Bath and Wells until the feast of Holy Trinity next.

Dogmersfeld, ii Id., May, A.D. 1330.

183. Bishop Ralph to the Pope. Fol. 25.

Sane ut a pluribus intellexi quidam nescio quo spiritu cupiditatis ambicionis vel inuidie stimulati famam meam quam Dominus integram antea preseruauerat, maculare, personamque ad ministerium in domo Dei nimis ineptam reddere mollientes, quamplurima vituperabilia a veritate tamen ut estimo penitus aliena de me consuta et subdole fabricata, vestre dulcissime sanctitati minus veraciter suggesserunt . . . Quacirca ad vestram paternitatem benignissimam, tutissimum refugium desolatis, flexis genibus, uinctisque manibus et expansis, preces ut audeo fundo deuotissimus, doloribus tamem plenas, quatinus michi tribulato propius assistendo, compassionis oculos conuertentes, contra morsus inuidie venenosos filium protegere innocentem dignemini paternali solita pietate, &c.

5th May.

184. Bishop Ralph to a Cardinal.

Si quid circa status mei corroboracionem in Romano Curia defuerat quouis modo vobis si placet mediantibus consummacionem perfectam capiat et felicem . . . Placeat eciam vestre dominacioni sincere in hiis que dilectus clericus meus

Magister R. de B. lator presencium, vobis ex parte mea, viva voce plenius intimauerit, fidem credulam adhibere.

Dogmersfeld, 5th May.

185. xvij Kal., May, A.D. 1330. Letters dimissory for William Broun, of Keton, rector of Lamezete, subdeacon, to be ordained deacon.

186. Same date. Same for Stephen Pigaz, subdeacon, to be ordained deacon.

187. Commission for Thomas de Retford, Chancellor of Wells, to enquire concerning the vacancy of the chapel of Clauerham, and the tithes thereto belonging, and to institute and induct John Yoly, of Blakedon, chaplain, at the presentation of Walter de Rodeneye.

Dogmersfeld, xiv Kal., June, A.D. 1330.

Fol. 25b. 188. xiij Kal., June, year and place aforesaid. Letters dimissory for John de Plumstoke, rector of the church of Astyngton (Ashington, near Ilchester), deacon, to be promoted to the order of priest.

189. Appointment of Roger de Hortesleye, clerk, as bailiff of the manors of Pokelchurch, Bathe, Clauerdon, and Hampton.

Dogmersfeld, 20th May, 4 Edward iii [A.D. 1330].

190. Same day. Appointment of William de Retford as bailiff of the manor of Banewell.

191. Grant by Bishop Ralph to John de Aulton and Idenia his wife, for their lives, of a messuage, one and a half virgates of land and meadow, with a mill adjacent, in Northwike, in the manor of Chiw, which Sir John de Chiw, clerk, lately held. Paying annually 37*s.* 1*d.*

Dated at Dogmersfeld, 14th April, 4 Edward iii [A.D. 1330].

Hiis testibus. Domino Michaele de Eston ecclesie nostre Wellensis canonico senescallo nostro, Rogero atte Walle, Willielmo de Retford.

192. x Kal., June, at Dogmersfeld. Letters dimissory for Robert de la More, rector of the church of Axebrugge, to be ordained priest.

193. Same date. Same for Thomas le Eyr, of Soweye, vicar of Pupmunstre (Pitminster), acolyte, to be ordained subdeacon.

194. Same date. Same for Nicholas Tryuet, rector of the church of Yeuelton, clerk, to be ordained to all minor orders.

195. The King's writ of mandamus to the Bishop to cause John de Meysy, parson of the church of Norton near Taunton, clerk, to be before the justices at Westminster on the morrow of St. John the Baptist to answer to Robert de Midelton of a plea that he render to him 100*li.*

Westminster, 19th May in the fourth year of our reign. Like writ to cause Richard de Compton, clerk, to come before the justices, at Westminster, on the morrow of St. John the Baptist to answer to Nicholas Gaillard of a plea that he render to him 10*li.*

Westminster, 22nd May in the fourth year of our reign.

The lord received these two writs at London and wrote to his official or commissary to execute them.

196. Kal., June, A.D. 1330, at Newton. Commission for the Chancellor of Wells to arrange the matter of the presentation of Richard de Lenge, clerk, presentee of Sir John de Mohun, knight, to the church of Erneshall (Earnshill near Langport). Fol. 26.

197. Id., June, A.D. 1330, at Okestede. Collation of Sir John de Sutton, priest, to the church of Stoke Giffard (Rodney Stoke), and institution as rector. Archdeacon of Wells to induct. The lord having heard that no one exercised the office of archdeacon there, wrote to the Dean of Axebrugge to induct if the truth of the matter agreed with public report.

198. The Bishop appoints Master Nicholas de Bathon' his proctor at the Court of Canterbury.

Okstede, Friday next after the feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle, A.D. 1330.

199. The Archbishop of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas lately a matter of complaint had arisen between Thomas de Essche pretending that he had been presented to the church of Cherleton Makerel by the true patrons, of the one part, and Richard de Middleton, clerk, the incumbent by virtue of collation and induction made by our authority, of the other part, and both parties have submitted themselves to your order. And because you were out of your diocese and jurisdiction and you do not intend to go there, as we have understood, we by the tenour of these presents do give you special licence to make such order in any place of our diocese or jurisdiction where you shall think fit.

Mortelake, xiij Kal., July, A.D. 1330.

200. Order made by the Bishop concerning the church of Cherleton Makerel.

Whereas a matter of complaint had arisen between Thomas de Essche, clerk, pretending that he had a right by virtue of a presentation made by Sir Robert called Le Fiz Payn, knight, and the lady Ela, his wife, of the one part, and Richard de Middelton, clerk, pretending right by pretext of a collation made by Simon, Archbishop of Canterbury. We order that Thomas be admitted and instituted, and that Richard shall take a pension of 10 marks every year from the said church until he shall be provided with an ecclesiatical benefice.

Fol. 26b. This order was made in the church of the Blessed Mary de Arcubus. After the reading of which both parties submitted themselves in the presence of Masters Walter de Burton, S.P.P., Canon of Wells, Griffin Treuaur, Doctor of Decrees, Lawrence Fastolf, Canon of London, William de Bere, advocate of the Court of Canterbury. And likewise for two days before the date of the commission aforesaid the said parties submitted themselves before Bishop Ralph in the mansion of the said Bishop without the bar of the New Temple, and Richard resigned the said church.

201. Edwardus Dei gracia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et

Dux Aquitannie Custodi spiritualitatis episcopatus Bathonensis et Wellensis salutem. Sciatis quod Robertus Fuiz Payn et Ela uxor ejus in Curia nostra coram Justicariis nostris apud Westmonasterium per considerationem ejusdem Curie nostre recuperauerunt presentacionem suam versus Johannem de Horsy ad ecclesiam de Cherleton Makarel hac vice. Et ideo vobis mandamus quod non obstante reclamacione predicti Johannis ad presentacionem predictorum Roberti et Ele ad predictam ecclesiam ydoneam personam admittatis hac vice.

Teste W. de Herle apud Westmonasterium vicesimo sexto die Junii anno regni nostri tercio.

202. Presentation by Robert Fiz Payn and Ela his wife, of Thomas de Essche, to the church of Cherleton Makerel, addressed to Simon, Archbishop of Canterbury, the see of Bath and Wells being vacant. Dated at Wutton (Wootton Fitzpaine, near Lyme), on Thursday next after the feast of St. Barnabas the Apostle, A.D. 1329.

203. Institution of Thomas de Essche to the said church by Bishop Ralph.

London, xiij Kal., July, A.D. 1330.

204. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Ieuelcestre. Public report saying that no one exercises the Archdeaconry of Wells, induct de Essche to the church of Cherleton Makerel.

London, xiij Kal., July, A.D. 1330.

205. vij Kal., July, A.D. 1330, at Oxstede. Institution of Thomas de Northeye, clerk, to the church of St. Michael, Burnet, presentee of John, Abbot of Theokesbury. The said church, which is worth 4 marks by the year, began to be vacant vij Kal., June last past, because Master William de Asshton, the late rector, is inducted in the church of Athereston, diocese of Worcester, who resigned xv. Kal., July, A.D. abovesaid. Fol. 27.

Letters to the Archdeacon of Bath to induct.

206. v Kal., July, A.D. abovesaid, at London.
Commission by Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Taunton, Master Robert Hereward, to enquire concerning an exchange between Master Thomas de Columbrigge, rector of the church of Coumbeflory, and Sir Robert de la Lydyzate, rector of the church of Enemere.

207. Bishop Ralph to the chancellor of Wells and the commissary-General to take security for payments of the fruits reserved.
Bernes, near London, Kal., July, A.D. 1330.

Fol. 28. 208. Commission by the Bishop for Michael de Eston, his steward, canon of Wells, Nicholas de Wethergraue, and John de Sutton, clerks, to make an extent of all his lands, and to enquire as to the value of the rents of assize, mills, &c. Also to enquire where the Bishop of Bath and Wells is lord of the manor, where patron of the church, in what place the prebendal church stands, and to the other things necessary.
Bernes, near London, 1st July, 4 Edward iii, [A.D. 1330.]

209. Bishop Ralph to the Pope.
Sane pater sanctissime mihi nuper relatum exstiterat quod in Romana inponitur mihi per emulos detractatores, videlicet quod prefatas ecclesias Bathon' et Wellen mihi commissas ante expedicionem status mei aliqualem in decem milibus florenorum debueram obligasse. Et Romanam curiam puritatis utique amatricem per pecuniam corrupisse. Super quo testem inuoco Dominum saluatorem quod innocens sum totaliter et immunis, nec uncquam talia attemptaui. Unde super hoc me dignemini si placet habere veraciter excusatum.
Bernes, 14th July.

210. Bishop Ralph to Cardinal Hanibald, titular St. Lawrence in Lucina, making the same protest.
Bernes, 14th July.
Under the same form it was written to Raymund, titular St. Eusebius, and to the lord Matthew, except the *clausula excusatoria*.

211. Bishop Ralph to Raymund de Farges, titular St. Mary Noua, Cardinal deacon, thanking him for preserving his state.

London, 11 July.

Under the same form it is written to Guillelmo Sabrinensis, Peter, of St. Praxedis the Virgin, Jacobo Gaietano, Jacobo de Couenis, Peter of Pelestrina, and Raymund Eusebius.

212. Edwardus Dei gracia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie venerabili in Christo patri Radulpho eadem gracia Episcopo Bathon', salutem. Quia vicecomes noster comitatuum Somerset et Dorset retornavit ad scaccarium nostrum in crastino Sancti Johannis Baptiste ultimo preterito quod Johannes de Godele Decanus Wellen' clericus est vestre diocesis et non habet laycum feodum in balliva sua per quod potest distringi, vobis mandamus quod ipsum Johannem distringatis per beneficia sua ecclesiastica habet in eadem diocesi vestra. Ita quod sit coram Baronibus de Scaccario nostro apud Westmonasteriam in crastino Sancti Michaelis ad respondendum Laurencio Le Botoner et Rogero de Nettlestede executoribus testamenti Roberti Person quondam pelliparii London' defuncti de *7li.* 16*s.* quos eis injuste detinet, &c. Teste R. de Notyngham apud Westmonasterium secundo die Julii anno regni nostri quarto.

The lord received this writ at London xvi. Kal., Aug., A.D. 1330, and iii Non., Aug., at Okstede, it was written to the official or commissary to execute it.

213. Edwardus Dei gratia, &c., venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia Bathonensi et Wellensi episcopo salutem. Mandamus vobis sicut alias vobis mandavimus quod venire faciatis coram Justicariis nostris apud Westmonasterium in octabis sancti Michaelis Magistrum Ricardum de Thistelden parsonam ecclesie de Mertok clericum vestrum ad respondendum Priori de Merton' de placito quod reddat ei quater viginti et sexdecim marcas que ei a retro sunt de annuo reddita, &c.

Teste J. de Stonore apud Westmonasterium xiiii die Maii anno regni nostri quarto.

The lord received this writ at Okstede iij Non., Aug., and sent it for execution.

Fol. 29. 214. Edwardus Dei gracia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gracia episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi salutem.

Cum dominus E. nuper rex Angli pater noster assignasset Edmundo de Wodestoke fratri suo firmam. liiij li. per annum quam episcopus loci predicti reddere consuevit ad Scaccarium ejusdem patris nostri pro maneriis de Cungresbury, Axebrugge, et Ceddre, in comitatu Somerset, sibi et heredibus suis habendis : nosque postmodum terras, tenementa, bona et catalla que fuerunt predicti Edmundi ratione forisfacture ejusdem Edmundi in manum nostram ceperimus, inde quia velimus de cetero respondere Vobis mandamus quod nobis de dicta firma. liiij li. a tempore mortis prefati Edmundi ad Scaccarium nostrum solvenda sitis intendentes prout predecessores vestri episcopi loci predicti ante assignacionem predictam intendere consueverunt.

Teste R. de Wodehous, archidiacono Richmundie, Thesaurario nostro, apud Westmonasterium, xij die Aprilis anno regni nostri quarto.

### *Amercements of the Bishop's tenants to be delivered to the Bishop.*

215. In the great Roll for the 21st year of King Edward, son of King Henry, in "Residuum Somerset," it is thus noted,

The same W. de Gloucester, the sheriff, renders an account of 40*d.* from John Long, of Ken, and Robert Le Heyward "quia non habent" of the Bench, in the 20th year.

And 40*d.* from Reginald Knolle and Thomas Le Bedelle, of Chiw, for a pledge there.

Half a mark from Brother John, prior of the Hospital of St. John, of Wells, and William, his brother for many defaults.

Half a mark from Roger Fitz Pain for unjust withholding.

40*d.* from William Fellard because he did not come before the King, in the 19th year.

20*s.* from Richard Le Flemyng for a fine of the Bench for licence to agree, in the 21st year.

Half a mark from Walter Le Flemyng for disseisin, before W. de Wymburn, in the 18th year.

Half a mark from Baldrick de Nonygton for a false claim before the same, in the 20th year.

Half a mark from Henry de Fonte for licence to agree, in the 13th year.

And [he pays] 69*s.* 4*d.* to the Bishop of Bath by the liberty of the charter of the Kings, and by the King's writ.

216. Mandamus from Simon, Archbishop of Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph to inspect and copy the apostolic letters* which he sends, concerning the quadrennial tenth of all ecclesiastical rents and issues of England, Wales, and Ireland. Fol. 29b.

Mortelake, xiij. Kal., August, A.D. 1330.

*A Memorandum.*

217. John de Clyuedon and Gilbert de Berwyk, late keepers of the bishopric of Bath and Wells, owe to the lord the King upon their account, 342*li.* 14*s.* 6½*d.*

They render an account. Into the Treasury 300*li.* Their expenses 10*li.* Into the Treasury 100 marks. Surplus 33*li.* 17*s.* 10½*d.*, which they assigned to the now Bishop for works received for his customary tenants mowing and carrying the King's corn in his bishopric. Wherefore they owe the Bishop 109*li.* 13*s* 1½*d.*

In respect of which, to the Bishop by letter obligatory of William Darches 56*li.*

Paid to Brother William de Haugesbury, the Bishop's receiver, 100*s.*

And they owe the Bishop 14*li.* 15*s.* 3*d.*

218. Pope* John [xxii] to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

"Ideoque deliberacione cum nostris fratribus prehabita super hiis diligenti, decimam omnium vestrorum et aliorum proueniencium et reddituum ecclesiasticorum in regno Anglie ac Wallie et Ibernie terris et partibus predictis consistencium per quatuor annos ab

* The Bull commences by reciting that William de Monte Acuto and Bartholomew de Bourghassh, knights, the ambassadors of King Edward had come to him begging his aid.

instanti festo Resurreccionis Dominice inantea computandis, a vobis et singulis personis ecclesiaticis exemptis et non exemptis regni terrarum et parcium eorundem, preterquam a dilectis filiis Magistro et fratribus Hospitalis sancti Johannis Jerusalemi qui contra hostes fidei Christiane iugiter se et sua, quousque propter hoc a presentacione huiusmodi decime exemptos esse volumus et immunes iuxta modum exigendam solitum; de dictorum fratrum consilio auctoritate apostolica per nostras litteras duximus imponendam. Volentes et ordinantes quod inter nos, pro nostris et eiusdem ecclesie, regemque predictum pro suis utilius releuandis necessitatibus annus singulis decima ipsa diuideretur equaliter sicut inferius continetur."

iij Nones, Jan., in the 24th year of our pontificate.

Fol. 30b. 219. Icherius de Concoreto, canon of Sarum, the papal Nuncio, to the Archbishop of Canterbury and his suffragans, postponing the payment of the quadrennial tenth from the feast of St. John the Baptist till the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, by authority of the Pope's letters.

London, 19 July, A.D. 1330.

Fol. 31. 220. Bishop Ralph to his official and commissary general, ordering them to publish the two preceding letters, and to warn all to pay a moiety of the tenth on Monday the feast of St. Lambert the Bishop and Martyr.

Okstede, v Kal., August, A.D. 1350.

221. Bishop Ralph appoints the following to collect the quadrennial tenth.

In the archdeaconry of Wells, the abbot of Glaston.

In the city and archdeaconry of Bath, the abbot of Keynesham.

In the archdeaconry of Taunton, the prior of Taunton.

Dated at Okstede, iiij. Kal., August, A.D. 1330.

)l. 31b. 222. Commission from Bishop Ralph to his official, commissary general, and Robert de Chikewell, his registrar, to take the oath from the sub-collectors of the above tenth.

Okstede, iij Nones, August, A.D. 1330.

223. Commission to William de Arches as bailiff of the Bishop's manors of Wyuelescoumbe, Weiynton, Boclonde, Lydiard, Cherde, and Fythide [Fitzhead in Wiveliscombe].

Okstede, 4 August, 4 Edw. iii. [A.D. .]

Under the like form Roger de Wythiford was appointed bailiff in the manors of Pokelchurche, Bath, Clauerdon, and Hampton.

And Roger de Hortesleye was appointed bailiff in the manors of Kyngesbury and Huwissch.

224. Commission by Bishop Ralph for the chancellor of Wells to institute Matthew de Clyuedon, clerk, to the church of Alre, at the presentation of Sir Matthew de Clyuedon, knight. Fol. 32.

Okstede, ii Non., August, A.D. 1330.

225. Commission by Bishop Ralph for Thomas de Retford, chancellor, John Martel, and Lawrence de la Barre, canons of Wells, to provide Walter de Legh, a poor clerk, with an ecclesiastical benefice, in accordance with the Pope's provision.

Okstede, Non., August, A.D. 1330.

226. Certificate of Walter de Hulle, to Bishop Ralph, of the ecclesiastical benefices vacant and under reservation of the fruits of the first year, from the date of the last certificate. Viz., the prebend of Wytchirch, taxed at 2 marks; its residue after deducting the said tax, 12 marks.

Vicarage of Pipmynstre taxed at 6½ marks; residue 7 marks. Parish church of Cherleton Makerel, taxed at 25 marks; residue 40s.

Church of Stoke Giffard, taxed at 8 marks; residue 6½ marks.

Richard Slory, vicar of Montacute, Thomas de Essch, rector of Cherleton Makerel, Robert, rector of Axebrugge, Walter de Remmisbury, proctor of Richard Bartholomei, rector of Culve, [Kilve] Thomas Le Eyr, vicar of Pipmynstre, Stephen Trippe, rector of Westcamel, and Richard atte Wode, vicar of Keynesham, took the oath to pay the levies.

Walter de Glandon, rector of Mere, refused to give more than 6½ marks; estimated at 10 marks.

The fruits of the prebends of Wyuelescombe, Wytchirch, and Tymbrescombe, and the parish churches of St. George, of Henton, Netelcombe, Giuelton, and Stokgiffard sequestered, those holding them not having appeared before the commissioners.

Wells, on the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula A.D. 1330.

Memorandum that Sir Icherus was certified according to the form of the certificates beforesaid.

227. Collation of Sir John de Kynardeseye, canon of Lichfield, to the canonry and prebend of Taunton, in the church of Wells, by the Bishop.

Okstede, Kal., August, A.D. 1330.

Mandate to the Archdeacon of Wells to induct.

Same date.

Fol. 33. 228. xv. Kal., October, A.D. 1330.

Licence for Henry de Litleton, rector of Spaxton, subdeacon, to study for a year in England.

229. Commission by Bishop Ralph for Masters John Martell, William de Pencricke, canons of Wells, and W. de Hull, the commissary general to receive the moiety of the quadrennial tenths on the feast of St. Lambert the Bishop.

Dogmersfield, Id., Sept., A.D. 1330, and second year of our consecration.

230. Mandamus by Bishop Ralph to the subcollectors of the quadrennial tenth to appear in London, in the house of Master Icherus, on the 21st. day next after the feast of St. Michael next to come to satisfy the said tenth in respect of the first term of payment, as much as pertains to them and to their archdeaconries.

Dogmersfield, xiv. Kal., October, A.D. abovesaid.

Fol. 34. 231. 6 Kal., October, A.D. 1330. Dispensation for Nicholas Crouke, rector of the church of Henton, deacon, to study for a year in England.

232. Appointment of John Stoket as steward at the manor

of Okestede, which manor Master John de Elham, the farmer of the same, granted and let to farm to the Bishop.

Dogmersfield, Monday next after the feast of St. Michael A.D. 1330.

233. Commission by Bishop Ralph for Thomas de Retford, chancellor of Wells, to institute Sir William de Clopcote, rector of Ofculm, diocese of Exeter, to the church of Schipton Malet, upon an exchange of benefices with William, rector of Schipton Malet.

Dogmersfield, 3 Non., Oct., A.D. 1330.

234. iij Kal., Nov. A.D. 1330, at Dogmersfeld. Bishop Ralph, by virtue of a commission by Robert, Bishop of Sarum, in a matter of exchange between William Brown, of Keten, rector of the church of Lamezete, and Sir Thomas de Stoke, perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Edyngdon, diocese of Sarum, instituted the said William to the said vicarage of Edyngdon.

Same day and hour. Institution of Thomas de Stoke to the church of Lamezete.

235. Day before the Kal., of November, at Dogmersfeld, Commission for John, Bishop of Exeter, to institute William de Clopcote to the church of Schepton. Induction reserved.

236. Same day. Licence for William Rosemound, rector of the church of Greynton, to study for a year in England.

237. xiij Kal., Dec., A.D. 1330, at Wells. Dispensation for Master Walter de Ceddre, rector of the church of Sandford Bryt, subdeacon, to study for a year in England. Fol. 34b.

238. ix Kal., Dec., A.D. 1330. Institution of John de Chilton, chaplain, to the vicarage of the church of Wemedon. (Wemborn.)

239. Institution by John, Bishop of Exeter, of William de Clopcote to the church of Schipton Malet, by virtue of a commission.

Kal., Dec., A.D. (1330).

240. Simon, Archbishop of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph, to execute the orders of the Papal Nuncio and cite the sub-collectors of the quadrennial tenth to appear in London to render account of their receipts.
Schaldeford, viij Kal., Dec., A.D. (1330).

241. vii Kal, Dec., in the year abovesaid, at Reading. Letters dimissory for Thomas de Northeye, subdeacon, rector of the church of Burnet, to be ordained deacon.

242. v Id., Dec., in the year above, at Wymbledon. Institution of John de Bourne, acolyte, to the church of Wrytlyngton, vacant by the resignation of Master John de Geydon.

243. iv. Id., Dec., same place and year. Dispensation for the said John de Bourn, rector of Writlyngton, to study for a year in England.

Fol. 35. 244. Ecclesiastical benefices which have been vacant from ij. Kal., Sept., A.D. 1329, till the feast of St. Michael, A.D. 1330.

*Deanery of Wells.*

Prebendal churches of Wyvelescoumbe and Tymbrescombe. Prebend of Whitchurch.

*Archdeaconry of Wells.*

Parish churches of Westcammel and Axebrigge. Vicarage of Montacute. Parish churches of Gyuelton, Alre, Cherleton Makerel, Stokegiffard.

*Archdeaconry of Taunton.*

Parish churches of Henton St. George, Netelcombe, Kelve. Vicarage of Pipmynstre.

*Archdeaconry of Bath.*

Vicarage of Keynesham.

*In the jurisdiction of Glaston.*

Parish church of Mere.

The provostship of the church of Wells.

Whereof the sub-collectors sold the fruits of the benefices, viz:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Of the church of Axebrigge due to the Pope . . . . . | for 6½ marks. |
| Of the vicarage of Montacute . . | for 100*s.* |
| Church of Netelcombe . . . . | for 12 marks. |
| Prebendal church of Tymbrescombe . | for 8 marks. |
| Church of Westcammel. . . . | for 20 marks. |
| Church of Alre . . . . . | for 23 marks. |
| Church of Cherleton . . . . | for 25 marks. |
| Vicarage of Keynesham . . . | for 100*s.* |
| Church of Mere . . . . . | for 6½ marks. |
| Vicarage of Pypmynstre . . . | for 6½ marks. |
| Church of Kilve . . . . . | for 15 marks. |

Master Icherius de Concoreto, the chief collector, sold the fruits of the benefices within-written, as appears by his letters patent, viz:—

| | |
|---|---|
| The provostship of the church of Wells | for 140 marks. |
| Church of Henton St. George . . | for 10 marks. |
| Church of Gyuelton . . . . | for 35 marks. |

Prebend of Whitchyrch which Master Thomas de Garton holds.

Prebendal church of Wyvelescombe which Robert de Hullum holds.

Remain under sequestration "*quia propter eorum potenciam nullus voluit emere eosdem.*"

Nevertheless the *ministri* of the said prebendaries say that Master Icherus sold the fruits of the said prebendaries, but they know not for how much.

The said sub-collectors have not disposed of the fruits of Stokegiffard, because the rector of the place "*juxta latus vestrum.*"

Money received by the chancellor and W. de Hulle, the sub-collectors of the first fruits due to the Pope :—

| | |
|---|---|
| Axebrigge | 40*s.* 40*d.* |
| Montacute | 50*s.* |
| Netelcombe | 11 marks. |
| Tymbrescombe (preb.) | 4 marks. |
| Westcammel. | 10 marks. |
| Alre | 11½ marks. |
| Cherleton | 12½ marks. |
| Keynesham | 50*s.* |
| Mere | 40*s.* 40*d.* |
| Pipmynstre | 40*s.* 40*d.* |

245. The King's writ to the Bishop.

Mandamus vobis sicut alias vobis mandavimus quod venire faciatis coram Justiciariis nostris apud Westmonasterium in Octabis sancti Hillarii Ricardum de Hale parsonam ecclesie de Chiu [Chew] clericum vestrum, ac respondendum Johanni de Stoke de placito quod reddat ei sex libras tresdecim solidos et quatuor denarios quos ei debet, etc. Et sciatis quod nisi hoc mandatum nostrum plenius exequamini graviter ad vos capiemus. Et habeatis ibi hoc breve.

Teste Johanne de Stonore apud Westmonasterium xxx. die Octobris anno regni nostri quarto.

Fol. 35b. 246. The King's writ to the Bishop to cause John de Plumstoke, parson of the church of Astyngton [Ashington], to come before the justices, at Westminster, on the octaves of St. Hilary to answer to Henry de Chaucombe, late parson of the church of Astyngton of a plea that he render to him 10*li.*

Teste at Westminster, 10 Oct., 4 Edw. iii.

247. Licence for John de Shiplake, rector of the church of Craucombe, to follow in the service of Sir Hugh de Audele, knight, for a year.

Wymboldon, Id., Dec., A.D. 1330.

248. vij, Kal., Jan., A.D. 1330 [–31], at Wymbeldon.

Institution of Robert de Cheddre, clerk, to the church of

Babbecary, vacant by resignation of Thomas de Erlegh, late rector, Archdeacon of Wells or his official, to induct after the feast of the Apostles Philip and James next, but not before, for certain and lawful causes moving the lord.

249. Same day and place. Letters dimissory for Henry Bolymer, of Strengeston, acolyte, to take all holy orders.

Same for Adam Confort, deacon, to be ordained priest.

250. Licence for the Bishop to ordain to ecclesiastical orders in the diocese of Winchester.

xix Kal., Jan.

251. Radulphus permissione diuina Bathonensis et Wellensis episcopus, dilecte nobis in Christo domino Johanni de Godelegh, ecclesie nostre Wellensis decano, salutem, graciam et benedictionem. Cum simus urgentibus et arduis de causis que celeritatem requirunt extra regnum Anglie progressuri et noviter abfuturi, ac transfretare peregrinacionis causa sanctorum limina, visitando prout ex voto tenemur, ducente Domino proponamus; vobis de cuius fidelitate et circumspectionis industria plenam in Domino fiduciam repertamus vices nostras committimus, ac vos facimus et ordinamus nostrum vicarium in spiritualibus generalem, etc.

Datum apud Okstede xiij, Kalend. Januarii, Anno Domini millisimo CCC. tricesimo, et consecracionis nostre secundo.

252. Kal., Oct., A.D. 1330, at Andeure [Andover], diocese of Winchester. Ordination of Master Walter de Teteney, rector of the church of Siresham, diocese of Lincoln, subdeacon, as deacon. 12 Kal. Jan., in the same year, at Okstede, the same Master Walter ordained priest. Fol. 36.

253. xv Kal., Dec., A.D. 1330. Institution of Stephen Severne, acolyte, to the church of Hardyngton, vacant by the death of Sir Geoffrey Lucy who is said to have died 5 Id. October last, Sir Hugh de Courteneye, knight, presents. The said church is said to be estimated at 20 marks.

254. xiv Kal., Dec., in the year aforesaid, at Wells. Licence for Thomas de Essch, rector of Cherleton Makerel, subdeacon, to study for a year in England.

Same date and place. Licence for Andrew Luttrel, rector of Estkantokkessheued, subdeacon, to study for a year in England.

255. x Kal., Dec., at Bath, in the year abovesaid. Same for Master John de Cotheye, rector of Ceden, [Cheddon] subdeacon.

Same date. Same for Sir John Bony, rector of Blakedon [Blagdon], priest. To take the fruits of the entire church.

256. iv Kal., Jan., A.D. 1330 [–31], at Okstede. Institution of Robert de Ros, late rector of Stratton St. Vigor, to the church of Clutton, vacant by exchange with John de Strengeston, rector of Clutton, at the presentation of William de Gourney.

Same place, day and year. Institution of John de Strengeston to the church of Stratton St. Vigor.

Fol. 36b. 257. Edwardus Dei gracia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie omnibus balliuis et fidelibus suis ad quod presentes litere pervenerint salutem. Sciatis quod venerabilis pater R. Bathonensis et Wellensis episcopus qui de licencia nostra ad partes transmarinas profecturus est, attornavit coram nobis loco suo magistrum Walterum de Burton et Johannem de Sutton capellanum sub alternacione ad lucrandum vel perdendum in omnibus placitis et querelis motis vel movendis pro ipso episcopo vel contra ipsum in quibuscumque curiis Anglie et ad instanciam eiusdem episcopi concessimus quod iidem Walterus et Johannes vel eorum alter quem presentem esse contigerit loco ipsius episcopi facere possint vel possit atturnatos vel atturnatum quos vel quem voluerint vel voluerit in curia nostra coram nobis ad omnia predicta placita et querelas prosequenda vel defendenda, et ad lucrandum vel perdendum in eisdem sicut predictum est. In cuius rei testimonium has literas nostras fieri fecimus patentes usque ad festum Pentecostes proximum

futurum duraturas. Presentibus minime valituris si contingat dictum episcopum iter illud non arripere, vel postquam citra terminum illum in Angliam redierit a partibus supradictis.

Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium decimo sexto die Decembris anno regni nostri quarto.

258. Symon, permissione diuina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, tocius Anglie primas, venerabili fratri nostro domino Radulpho Die gracia Bathonensi et Wellensi episcopo, salutem, et fraternam in Domino caritatem. Exposito nobis vestre deuocionis affectu, quo sanctorum limina in partibus transmarinis personaliter visitare proponitis, Nos propositum huiusmodi laudabile reputantes, ut a die confectionis presencium usque ad festum Pentecostes proximum sequturum a vestris ciuitate et diocese causa peregrinacionis huiusmodi valeatis abesse ; vobis tenore presencium licencium concedimus specialem. Vobiscum super hoc si et prout necesse fuerit, et nobis a iure permittitur nichilominus dispensantes. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi. Datum apud Lamhuth, decimo octavo Kal., Januarii Anno Domino mcccxxx. et consecracionis nostre tercio.

259. Commission by Bishop Ralph for the archdeacons and officials of Wells, Bath, and Taunton, Masters John Brabazoun, Walter de Burton, Lawrence de la Barre, Robert de Baldok, John de Orleton, Robert de Clypston, and John de London, canons of Wells, and the deans of Frome, Cary, Merston, Ieuelcestre, Axebrugg, Cruke [Crewkerne], Brideport, and Wyly, to enquire concerning the life and conversation of Henry Roger, of Great Petlynge, a poor clerk of the diocese of Lincoln, and to provide him with an ecclesiastical benefice in accordance with the apostolic mandate.

Elham, vi Id., Jan., A.D. 1330.

260. xiv Kal., Feb., in the year abovesaid, at the city of Attrabaten [Arras]. Letters dimissory for Thomas de Northeie, rector of the church of St. Michael, Burnet, subdeacon, to be ordained deacon and priest.

261. Same day and place. Licence for the same rector to

follow in the service of John, Abbot of Tewkesbury, for two years.

262. 1 Jan. A.D. 1330, at Wymbeldon. The Bishop wrote to the prior of the hospital of St. John in the city of Wells to admit William Bysshop, clerk, "ad gerendum habitum religionis illius, et scriptum fuit quod certificaret dominum episcopum, quid proposuit facere in premissis."

Fol. 37. 263. Litera missa domino nostro pape.

Sanctissimo in Christo patri, etc. In solio apostolici culminis faus quidam gratie diuinitus affluentis ad hoc precipue scaturire dinoscitur, ut exinde fluvius quasi de loco voluptatis egrediens, ortum deliciarum fecundet ecclesie militantis, et succrescere faciat irrigando. Secus cuius decursum, me licet indignum vestre culture plantulam, clementissima vestra prouidencia complantauit. Arescere quidem cepi fere humore proprio desiccato; set immensa vestra fecunditas mihi continuo rorem gratie restauratis misericorditer distillauit. Et licet ventis validissimis undique conflantibus ex aduerso, pene fuissem prostratus et vehementissime conquassatus, vestre tamen auctoritatis inflexibilis fortitudo me licet inmeritum stabiliendo firmauit, et soliditatis infixis radicibus roborauit. Quid igitur offeram domino tam suaui pro omnibus que mihi tribuit habundanter, nunquid meipsum, cum sim licet modicus vester totus: aut quid aliud mundiale, cum vestris preceptis subjaceat quicquid habeo vel habebo. Restat igitur ut ad omnipotentis auxilium me convertens, precibus affusis suppliciter interpellem, quatinus ipse vitam vestram cum felicitatis incremento custodiens dierum plenitudine sic adaugeat in presenti, ut tandem semeltipsum vobis in premium tribuat in futuro. Si quid autem vestris placabile nutibus per me valeat exerceri, statim cum libeat edictum prodeat, me vero cum meis omnibus in hiis que vestre concernunt apicem dignitatis, reperietis pervigilem juxta vires, benevolum et attentum. Ad uniuersalis ecclesie sue regimen vobis addat altissimus annos pacis plurimos et felices.

Scriptum, etc.

264. Robert, Bishop of Sarum, to the *locum tenens* of the dean of Sarum ordering him to cite all who ought to appear at the

intended visitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury on Monday next after the Ascension.

Sonnyng, iiij Id., April in the year abovesaid, and the first of our consecration.

The *locum tenens* of the dean of Sarum to Master Robert Baldoke, prebendary of Radeclyue and Bedemynster, citing him to appear in the chapter of Sarum on Monday next before the Ascension to treat with the Bishop prior to the archiepiscopal visitation. In the chapter of Sarum, iv Kal., May in the year abovesaid. Fol. 37b.

265. Day before the Kal., July, A.D. 1331, at Okstede.

Licence for Nicholas Trevet, rector of the church of Yuelton, priest, to study for a year in England.

266. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Wells citing him, and by him, all of the chapter to appear at the episcopal visitation on Wednesday next after the feast of St. Mary Magdalen.

Okstede, v Kal., July, A.D. 1331.

267. Bishop Ralph to the prior and convent of Bath, citing them to appear at the episcopal visitation in their chapter house on Monday next after the feast of St. James the Apostle. Okstede, v Kal., July in the year abovesaid.

268. viij Id., July, A.D. 1331, at Dogmeresfeld. Commission for John, Bishop of Exeter, to finally arrange the matter of exchange of prebends between Sir Peter de Berkelee, canon of Wells and prebendary of Eston, and Sir William de Brinton, canon of the collegiate church of Glaseneye, diocese of Exeter, and prebendary in the same.

269. Id., July A.D. 1331, at Dogmersfeld. Institution of Robert de Rues, priest, to the vicarage of Stokegummor vacant by the death of Sir Thomas de Sancto Neothe. Archdeacon of Tanton to induct.

270. xvi Kal., August in the year aforesaid, at Dogmersfeld.

Institution of Thomas de Dumbredan, priest, to the church of Compton Pauncefote, vacant by the death of Sir Walter Pauncefot, who died on the day before the Nones of July last past. Archdeacon of Wells to induct.

271. xv Kal., of August, in the year and place aforesaid Licence for Thomas Le White, rector of the church of Camelegh acolyte, to study for a year in England. He is to take the order of subdeacon.

272. Day before the Ides of July, at Dogmersfeld, in the year abovesaid, the lord granted to Sir John de Bogeleye, priest, perpetual vicar of the cathedral church of Wells, a certain chantry formerly founded for the soul of the lord William de Button, the elder, formerly Bishop of Bath and Wells, at the altar of the Blessed Virgin. To have as long as it shall please the lord.

273. vi Kal., Aug., in the year abovesaid, at Woky.
Special licence for Sir Richard de Marcheslee, rector of Skylegate, to let his church to farm for three years.

274. Simon, Archbishop of Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph intimating that he proposes to hold a visitation of his churches of Bath and Wells and orders him to cite all to attend at the cathedral church of Wells on Monday next after the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.
Frompton, in the diocese of Sarum, ix Kal., August, A.D. 1331.

275. The King's writ to the Bishop ordering him to cause Nicholas Ganard, parson of the church of Nortone St. Philip, to come before the justices, at Westminster, on the morrow of St. Martin, to answer to John Le Soneter, of Upton Escudemor, of a plea that he render to him 50 marks.
Westminster, 20 June, in the 5th year of our reign.

276. The King's writ to the Bishop ordering him to have 28*s.* 8*d.* before the justices, at Westminster, on the octave of St.

Nicholas, which he caused to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of William Ruspyn, parson of the church of Wythdecoumbe, clerk, to render to the prior of Bath for arrears of an annual rent of 14*s.* 4*d.* recovered before the justices.

Westminster, 4 July, in the 5th year of our reign.

277. Commission by Bishop Ralph for Master Walter de Hull, rector of Schepton Belli Campi, commissary-general, to enquire into the matter of the excommunication which John atte Churchestiele, of Wells, asserts have been cast on him at the instance of Roger atte Walle by Master Walter Brown, subdean of Wells.

Banewell, vii Id., August, A.D. 1331.

278. Radulphus permissione, etc., dilectis filiis universis et singulis archidiaconis nostre diocesis et eorum officialibus, decanis rectoribus, vicariis, et capellanis parochialibus et aliis in capella divina celebrantibus, etc. Uniuersitatem vestram rogamus movemus et exhortamur in Christo, ac vobis in virtute obediencie firmiter iniungendo mandamus, quatinus cum nuncius seu procurator fidelis noui operis capelle sancti spiritus et beati Thome Martiris de Were ad vos pias fidelium elemosinas venerint petituri, ipsos benigne et fauorabiliter admittentes, negocia dicte capelle meliore modo quo poteritis exponatis, seu per eosdem exponi permittatis. Et quicquid colligi seu conferri contigerit in hac parte, dicto nuncio seu procuratori absque retencione vel diminucione quacumque integre liberetis. Presentibus post biennium a data presencium continue numerandum minime valituris. Volentes inter cetera et fermiter iniungentes quod dictus procurator seu nuncius necnon custos dicte capelle ac etiam supervisor reparacionis dicte capelle quicumque fuerint, quolibet anno de collatis dictis operibus et circa ea inpensis per eosdem, coram vicario de Ouerwere, qui pro tempore fuerit et eciam coram duobus parochianis ibidem fidedignioribus fideliter calculent et videant quod huiusmodi collata et collecta in usus necessarios dictorum operum manifeste et fideliter conuertantur de quo singularum personarum predictarum consciencias onerari volumus coram Deo.

Datum apud Banewell octavo Idus Augusti Anno Domino Millesimo. ccc. xxxj°, et consecracionis nostre secundo.

Bishop Ralph to the same.

279. Universitatem vestram rogamus et exhortamus in Christo, vobisque nihilominus in virtute sancte obediencie firmiter iniungentes, quatinus cum dilectus nobis in Christo Philippus Schipham qui se in parochia de Wynescumbe in loco quodam qui sancti Romani wlgariter nuncupatur, pauperem constituit heremitam; cujus pretextu quoddam ibidem beneficium ut dicitur inchoauit, ad vos et vestrum quemlibet accesserit fidelium elemosinas petiturus, ipsum vel procuratorem suum eius nomine has nostras literas deferentem, in ecclesiis et locis vestris benignius admittentes, negocia dicti pauperis heremite clero et populo vobis sub subiectis diligenter et fideliter exponatis. Quicquid vero in hac parte collectum fuerit vel collatum, dicto heremite vel procuratori suo predicto volumus integraliter liberari. Nos insuper . . . omnibus Christi fidelibus nostre diocesis indulgencie capacibus, qui dicto heremite subsidium prestiterint, etc.

Datum apud Banewell, vij Idus Augusti Anno Domino Millesimo tricentesimo. xxxj.

Fol. 39. 280. The Archbishop of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph, appointing Monday next after the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin next for his visitation.

Chereestoke, vi Id., Aug., A.D. 1331.

Litera domini regis de veniendo ad Parliamentum.

281. Edwardus De gratia rex Anglie, Dominus Hibernie et dux Aquitannie, venerabili patri R. eadem gratia Bathonensi et Wellensi episcopo salutem, cum pro magnis et arduis negociis nos et statum ac regimen regni nostri specialiter contingentibus de consilio prelatorum et magnatum nobis assistencium ordinauerimus Parliamentum nostrum apud Westmonasterium in crastino sancti Michaelis proximo futuro tenere, et vobiscum ac cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus, et proceribus dicti regni habere colloquium et tractatum. Vobis mandamus in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tenemini firmiter iniungentes quod omnibus aliis pretermissis dictis die et loco personaliter sitis nobiscum et cum

ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus predictis super dictis negociis tractaturi vestrumque consilium impensuri Premunientes priorem et capitulum ecclesie vestre Bathonensis et decanum et capitulum ecclesie vestre Wellensis, archidiaconos, totumque clerum vestre diocesis, quod iidem prior decanus, et archidiaconi in propriis personis suis, et utrumque capitulorum per unum idemque clerus per duos procuratores ydoneos plenam et sufficientem potestatem ab ipsis capitulis et clero habentes, dictis die et loco intersint ad faciendum et consenciendum hiis que tunc ibidem de communi consilio diuina fauente clemencia contigerit ordinari. Et quia ante haec tempora communia regni nostri negocia propter aliquorum prelatorum et magnatum absenciam qui ad conuocaciones et Parliamenta huiusmodi non ad dies statutos, set diu postmodum venerunt frequenter retardata fuerunt ad commune dampnum populi regni nostri. Volumus et vobis iniungimus et mandamus quod dicto crastino omni modo sitis ad nos ad locum predictum. Et premuniatis prefatos priorem, decanos archidiaconos, et ceteros quod ipsi similiter tunc intersint, quia intentionis nostre existit quod Parliamentum illud cum celeritate qua fieri poterit finiatur, ut ex inde parcatur populi nostri laboribus et expensis.

Teste me ipso apud Lincoln, xvj die Julii anno regni nostri quinto.

282. Commission for the subprior of Bath to hear confessions. Blakeford, 8 Kal., Sep., A.D. 1331.

Same for Sir Robert de Olveston and Sir Robert de Avebury, vicars in the church of Wells. Also for the vicars of Frome and Evercrich, rectors of Gothull and St. Mary of Iuelcestre, vicar of Bruggewalteri, rectors of Seleworth and Thornfagun, vicars of Souz Perton, Temple, and Cheddre.

283. x Kal., Sep. in the year aforesaid. Reconciliation of the cemetery of the hospital of Brugge Walteri.

284. x Kal., Sep., A.D. 1331, at Compton. Licence for Master Walter de Ceddre, rector of the church of Saunford Bret, subdeacon, to study for a year in England.

285. Primo die mensis Septembris anno predicto apud Banewell, dominus concessit licenciam specialem Johanni Ate More de Bredecumb, quod possit erigere tabulam ligneam infra mansum suum predictum et, posito superaltari, diuina absque prejudicio ecclesie parochialis de Wroxal et alterius cujuscumque facere celebrari per unum annum, etc.

286. iij Id., Sept., at Woky in the year aforesaid. Licence for John de Lech, rector of Wryngton, to absent himself for a year.

287. Day before the Ides of Sept., in the year aforesaid, at Chyu. Licence for James de Merton, rector of Rode, subdeacon, to study for two years in England.

288. Grant by Bishop Ralph to Richard de Clivedone for the term of his (Richard's) life, of a tenement and lands which John de Acres and John, son of Robert de Strode, lately held by the grant of Bishop John, our immediate predecessor, in Puttyngthrop, in the manor of Banewelle, and once held by Alice de Offre in villeneige. Paying 26*s.* 8*d.* annually.

Dated at Chyu, Thursday next, the feast of the Nativity of Blessed Mary, 5 Edw. iii.

289. Day before the Ides of Sept., in the year aforesaid at Chyu. Licence for Philip Bernardyn, rector of Meryet, subdeacon, to study from Michaelmas till the 10th of April.

290. Same date and place. Letters dimissory for John de Janne, acolyte, to take all holy orders.

291. iv Id., Sept., at Wells. Same for William called Richeman, acolyte.

292. Day before the Ides of Sept., at Chiw. Licence for Richard Gunny, rector of the church of Cheleworth, to be absent for 2 years.

293. Ides Sept., A.D. 1331. Licence for Sir Robert Le Pyl,

rector of the church of Crukern, to follow in the services of Sir H. de Courtenay, knight, for a year.

294. xvi Kal., Oct., at Schapewike. Institution of Master John Barbe, clerk, in the person of Robert Blake, clerk, his proxy, to the church of Cosyngton, at the presentation of Robert de Brente. Archdeacon of Wells to induct. Fol. 40.

295. Same date and place. Licence for Thomas de Stoke, rector of the church of Lamezete, to follow in the service of Sir Thomas de Berkeley, knight, for a year.

296. Universis pateat per presentes quod nos Adam permissione divina Abbas monasterii Glaston' et eiusdem loci conventus ex unanimi consensu nostro sub ypotheca et obligacione rerum nostri monasterii prelibati, pro nobis et successoribus nostris promittimus bona fide quod venerabilem in Christo patrem dominum Radulphum Dei gracia Bathonensem et Wellensem episcopum et eius successores contra omnes mortales super dedicacione ecclesie parochialis de Schapewyke noviter iam constructe, immunes conservabimus et indempnes, si quovismodo inposterum legitime doceri valeat vel probari quod dicta ecclesia de Schapewyke in solo situata fuerit alieno. Consencientes insuper quod dos et omnia alia iura antique ecclesie de Schapewyke que stetit in campo, ipsi nove ecclesie parochiali in villa de Schapewyke noviter dedicate per dictum patrem canonice applicentur. In quorum omnium testimonium sigilla nostra presentibus sunt appensa.

Datum Glaston' in capitulo nostro. xiii. Kal., Octobris anno Domini Millesimo. ccc. xxxi.

297. Kal., Oct., A.D. 1331, at Frome. Dispensation for Nicholas de Stourton, clerk, that he can be promoted to holy orders and hold an ecclesiastical benefice notwithstanding illegitimacy.

298. Kal., Oct., at Bekyngton. Licence for John de Putford, rector of the church of Bromton, to follow in the service of Sir Thomas West, knight, for a year.

299. Kal., Oct., A.D. 1331, at Bekyngton. Licence for Philip de Weston, rector of the church of Mersshton [Marston Magna] subdeacon, to study for a year.

300. The King's writ to the Bishop ordering him to cause Richard de Hale, parson of the church of Chieu, clerk, to come before the justices, at Westminster, on the octave of St. Michael to answer to John de Stoke of a plea that he render to him 6*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

Witness :—William de Herle, 10th June, 5 Edward iii.

Return. He is not found.

301. The King's writ to the Bishop because our sheriff of Somerset and Dorset returned at our Exchequer, on the quindene of St. John the Baptist, that Robert Aylwy, one of the executors of the will of Thomas Alwy, is a clerk of your diocese and has no lay fee in his bailwick. We command you that you distrain the said Robert by his ecclesiastical benefices that he be before the barons of our Exchequer, at Westminster, on the morrow of St. Michael to acquit William Husee, of Knyghtessutton, together with Richard Aylwy and Peter de Lambourn, executors of the said will, against us for 100*s.* which the said Thomas when he was bailiff of the liberty of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, levied from the said William to the use of the Lord Edward, our father.

Teste at Westminster, 17th July, 5 Edw. iii.

Return. We have cited.

302. vii Kal., Oct., at Whitchurch. Licence for John de Bourn, rector of the church of Writlington, subdeacon, to study for a year.

Fol. 40b. 303. The Bishop appoints Simon de Bristoll, rector of the church of Barton, in the diocese of Lincoln, and others (not named) his proctors in the matter of one Roger de Berewell, priest, in the church of Northbarwe, in the diocese of Bath and Wells.

Dogmersfeld, viij Id., Oct., A.D. 1331.

304. The Bishop's mandate to the dean and chapter of Wells to admit William de Newport as a canon and brother according to the effect of apostolic letters.

Dogmeresfield, Thursday next after the feast of St. Denis, A.D. 1331, and the 3rd of our consecration.

305. Same day and under the same form. Philip de Davyntre admitted as a canon of Wells.

306. iii Id., Oct., A.D. 1331, at Dogmeresfeld. Commission for the Bishop of Winchester to finally arrange the matter of exchange between Sir Thomas de London, rector of the church of Chilbolton, diocese of Winchester, and Sir Philip Bernardyn, rector of the church of Meriet, in the diocese of Bath and Wells. Induction of the said Thomas reserved.

307. About the feast of St. Dennis A.D. 1331, at Dogmersfeld. Fol. 4r. Licence for Peter de Cotes, rector of thc church of Exton, to follow in the service of the Lady Katherine de Monte Acuto for a year.

308. Mandate by Bishop Ralph. Notwithstanding the visitation of the Archbishop our ordinary jurisdiction is by no means suspended.

309. vij Kal., Nov., A.D. 1331, at Euercrich. Institution of Hugh Druweis to the church of Pontyngton. Archdeacon of Wells to induct.

310. The King's writ to the Bishop ordering him to cause Richard atte Wode, vicar of the church of Keynesham, to come before the justices, at Westminster, on the quindene of St. Martin to answer to Henry de Fulham and Hugh de Alresford, executors of the will of Richard de Alresforde of a plea that he render to them *20li.* Westminster, 11th July. 5 Edw. iii.

Received at Euercrich 27th Oct., and sent to the official for execution.

311. The Bishop's approval concerning the vicarage of Kalueton [Kelston]

"Sententiam prefati vicarii nostri superius recitatam virtute commissionis predicte . . . duximus approbandam.

312. Kal., Nov., A.D. abovesaid. Licence for Master Henry de Luttelton, rector of the church of Spaxton, to study for a year in England.

313. Nones Nov., at Maperton, by authority of the commission of David, Bishop of St. Asaph, the Bishop of Bath and Wells to arrange the matter of exchange made between Master H. de Clyfe, rector of the church of Montalto, and Sir William de Melburne, canon and prebendary of Schaldeford, in the church of Wells, and admitted the said Master H. de Clyfe.

314. vi. Id., Nov., A.D. 1331, at West Camelle. Institution of Henry de Barwe, priest, to the vicarage of the church of Cherlton Caunvile.

Fol. 41b. 315. 1 Oct., at Dogmersfield, A.D. 1331. Licence for Andrew Sprengehuse, rector of the church of Melles, to be absent till Easter.

316 iv Id., Nov., at Ieuele, in the year aforesaid. Licence for Thomas de Chelreye, rector of the church of Seuenhampton, priest, to study for a year in England.

317. ix Kal., Dec., A.D. 1331, at Porloke. Institution of Henry Tholy, deacon to the church of Wethull, at the presentation of Philip de Welleslee, in the person of Master Robert Baac, clerk, his proxy.

318. viij Kal., Dec., at Luccumb, in the year aforesaid. Institution of Henry de Asshelworth, priest, to the vicarage of the church of Clyuedon, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, Bristol.

319. iv Kal., Dec., A.D. 1331, at Stokegomer. Licence for Sir Robert de Langebroke, rector of the church of Doulyssh, to let his church to farm until the feast of St. Michael.

320. The Archbishop of Canterbury to the Bishop reciting the letters of the Papal Nuncio requiring payment of the quadrennial tenth.
Wauerle, Kal., Nov., A.D. abovesaid.

321. Mandate to the Bishop to pay the Peter's Pence at the house of the Papal Nuncio in London on the feast of the Purification instant. Fol. 42.
London, 28 Oct., A.D. 1331.

322. Bishop Ralph to his deans, &c. "Rogamus et hortamur in Christo, quatinus cum nuncius seu legitimus procurator noui operis cuiusdam capelle iuxta Pontem fractum Eboracen' diocesis ubi recolende memorie dominus Thomas Comes Lancastrie, diem suum clausit extremum, ad vos venerit fidelium elemosinas petiturus, ipsum procuratorem in locis vestris benigne et fauorabiliter admittentes, negocia dicte capelle et operis antedicti populo vobis subiecto meliori modo quo poteritis exponatis et dictum procuratorem si hoc personaliter exponere voluerit permittatis."
Tanton, 4 Dec., A.D. 1331.

323. The King's writ to the Bishop that he cause 20*li.* to be made of the ecclesiastical goods of William vicar of the church of Kynemersdon [Kilmersdon] and have them at Westminster to render to Agnes Samuel. Westminster, 26 Nov., 5 Edw. iii.

324. Bishop Ralph to the Archbishop of Canterbury acknowledging his mandate dated at Monketon. xij. Kal., Dec., A.D. 1331, to make inquisition touching the conduct of Roger Brekebeke, "clericus vester et familiaris," Walter de Rodeney, and several other their accomplices, whose names are not known, who during the Archbishop's visitation of the monastery of Galston, "ad Fol. 42b.

cameram nobis pro mora nostra in eodem monasterio deputatam, quasi hostiliter accedentes, nonnullis ministris, clericis ac familiaribus nostris, nobis in excercicio visitacionis nostre huiusmodi assistentibus, multiplices et enormes injurias et violencias publice et notorie intulerunt, ac ostium camere nostre predicte frangere seu disserrare contra voluntatem officiariorum per nos inibi deputatorum publice conabantur" ; and stating that by authority of that mandate he has ordered his sentence to be solemnly published and cited the said Walter but Roger has not been found in his diocese.

Euercrich, iij Id., Dec., A.D. 1331.

Fol. 44. 325. Inquisition taken in the greater church of Wells, by the official of the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells ij. Kal., Dec., A.D. 1331.

John Beket, of free condition, of the age of 30 years and more, as he says, sworn and examined if he knew any of the accomplices or adherents of Roger Brikebeke and Walter de Rodeney ; says that he does not. Being asked where was he when the Bishop of Bath was with the Archbishop in the monastery of Glaston ; he says that he was present continuously with the other esquires of the Bishop from the coming of the said Bishop until his going away from the same monastery. Being asked if he was present with the Bishop in the Archbishop's chamber ; he says that sometimes he was within and sometimes without the said chamber. Being asked if he saw or knew anyone who made the tumult at the door of the chamber when the Bishop of Bath was in it, and whether anyone endeavoured to break or open the said door. To this interrogatory he saith that he saw a youth of the esquires of the said Bishop wishing to enter the said chamber that he might follow his said lord the Bishop and the doorkeeper held him back, and in shutting the door pressed the said youth between the door and the lintel of the said door ; and afterward someone reproved that doorkeeper, but he does not know who. And immediately afterwards came the Archbishop's marshall and said that if anything had been done otherwise than they ought all ought to be reformed. Being asked if he saw any violence done upon the servants of the Archbishop, he says he did not.

Baldwin Pike, of free condition, of the age of 40 years, deposes as John Beket.

Walter Mouncerel, of free condition, aged 30 years, deposes as the said John.

Edward de Beteslegh, of free condition, aged 40 years, agrees with the said John.

John de Cornwaile, of free condition, aged 30 years, deposes as the said John.

Maurice Vaghan, of free condition, aged 30 years, says as the said John said. With this addition, that that youth having withdrawn from the entry into the chamber pressed with some force at the door to obtain entry, nevertheless not to the injury or contempt of anyone, as appeared to him.

326. Inquisition taken in the conventual church of Glaston by us, Ralph, by divine permission, Bishop of Bath and Wells, iiij Id., Dec., A.D. abovesaid.

Peter Vason, of free condition, aged 30 years, and janitor of the abbot and convent of the monastery of Glaston, being asked if anyone did injury or violence to the servants, clerks or *familiares* of the Archbishop; says that he does not know. Asked if anyone was seen to break or open the door of the chamber appointed for the Archbishop; he says, not that he knows. Asked if anything was done to the hindrance or contempt of the Archbishop's jurisdiction; he says not that he knows. He says that he heard from others that Walter Rodeney wanted to have entry into the said chamber, and entry had been denied him. Fol. 44b.

John, clerk of the meadary, of the same monastery says as the said Peter said, with this change; that he heard said that one of the esquires wishing to enter the doorkeeper closed the door too soon and so squeezed the foot of the said esquire between the door and the lintel of the same door, and forthwith the same esquire called and others came who drew him out of the said chamber; but he knows not who they were.

John Gouyz, of free condition, aged 30 years, deposes as the said Peter, with this change; he heard that the words were between Walter Rodeney and the servants of the Archbishop.

Richard de Wuteneye, servant in the refectory of the said monastery, deposes as the said Peter, with this change; that he heard it said by those who were present at the door that a youth of the esquires wished to enter the chamber and one, Master Peter by name, as he believes, drew him back by the hood outside the chamber.

Robert Friday, of free condition, aged 30 years, deposes as the said Peter. He saw no injury or violence done to any of the ministers of the Archbishop, nor did he see any other tumult at the door.

Richard Le Messager, of free condition, aged 40 years, says that he knows nothing except by the relation of others.

William Hardynge, of free condition, aged 30 years, agrees with Richard Le Messager.

Henry Le Ferour, of Glaston, of free condition, aged 40 years, knows nothing except by relation.

Thomas in the Coumbe, of Glaston, of free condition, aged 40 years, heard that the youth was dragged out of the door of the chamber.

Fol. 45. William Le Bakere, of free condition, agrees with the said Thomas.

Richard de Blackere agrees with the said Thomas and William.

Robert de Marnhall, of free condition, aged 30 years, says as Peter Wason, with this change. He saw the youth wishing to enter the chamber, and Walter Rodeney drawing him back exclaimed "tu non facis curialiter, immo emendabuntur ista." And immediately the Archbishop's marshall appeared and promised that all things should be reformed.

Robert atte Wych, of free condition, aged 60 years, deposes as the said Peter and Thomas in the Coumbe.

Thomas Jordam, "familiaris nostre," aged 30 years, deposes as the said Peter. With this change; that he was present at the door and saw the said youth, his companion, pressed by the chamber door, and another man dragged him out in so much that his garment was torn.

And at length Walter de Rodeneye reproved the Archbishop's barber who was shutting the door.

Henry de Sudbury, esquire, and "familiaris noster," agrees with Thomas Jurdan.

Nicholas de la Rode, esquire, and " familiaris noster," says he saw nothing.

Nicholas de Kynardesey and Edmund de Kynardesey, esquires, " familiares," also depose.

Master Gilbert de Schepton, rector of the church of Criich, in our diocese, was with us in the chamber, and heard strife but saw or heard of no injury.

Master William de Columbruggs was with us in the chamber but saw no injury nor heard strife.

Inquisition taken in the parish church of Walton by Master Walter de Banewell, the Bishop's commissary, iiij Id., Dec., A.D. 1331.

Thomas Roules aged 40 years, says that he heard nothing of the said offences. Fol. 45b.

William Lude, aged 30 years, saw or heard nothing.

Thomas Byndon, aged 30 years, says that he heard from others that after the entry of the Bishop into the chamber the door was closed, and the esquires opened it and went in to their lord.

Thomas Cokeman, aged 40 years, says he knows nothing because he was absent from the vill of Glaston.

327. The chancellor, and masters of the University of Oxford to Bishop Ralph.

A vobis pater et domine reuerende, qui uniuersitatem vestram si placet et nostram doctrine lumine et circumspecti regiminis velut pater et caput venustate perlucide decorastis eo magis pro expediendis separamus prouentura remedia et ut asserit quod expedit querendi tempora filiis apciora, quo solicitudo vestra paterna in augmentum sui meriti eadem benignitate inchoare decreuit et cura peruigili consummare. Cum igitur vestris temporibus utinam prosperis et longeuis quibus officium Cancellarii et uniuersitatis regimen gerebatis: dominus noster rex Anglie dominaque regina pro graciis Magistrorum tunc regencium consequendis, vestra ad hoc mouente industria, aures apostolicas regiis precibus exitabant, quorum solis Magistris arcium indigentibus pretermissis, ceteri a diu est, sunt gratiam apostolicam consequti. Nouissimis vero temporibus, dominus noster papa residuis prouidebat, set quo, tam pium negocium perfici poterit non habentibus nisi assit vestre pietatis habundan-

cia, qua satisfacere possint pro laboribus et expensis; ad vestre dominacionis dexteram cuius gratiam deficere timemus pro eisdem censemus confidencius recurrendum, eidem humiliter supplicantes, quatinus, ut leticiam per vos primitus inchoatam, quam hucusque per amicos urbs in Romana curia, prout effectus operis apercius manifestat suauiter confouistis gratiosius consummetis; manus adiutrices apponere dignemini intuitu caritatis, pro hiis vero que ex largiflue dominacionis gratia eosdem oculo compassionis, caritas vestra disponet respicere, Magistram Ricardum de Leghe recepturum hillariter, quod eisdem conferri continget, vestre reuerencie destinamus, quam ad ecclesie sue regimen conseruet altissimus per tempora prospera et longeua. Scriptum Oxon' tertio die Decembris.

328. The King's writ, dated 16th Oct., 5 Edw. iii, to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer, to enquire if in time past a tax had been made on the temporalities of the bishopric of Bath and Wells in the archdeaconry of London and if it be found that there were no temporalities of that see in the said archdeaconry then they are to acquit him. The proceedings before the barons are set out, and as it was found that there were no temporalities there, it is ordered that the tax be cancelled.

Fol. 46b. 329. Icherius de Concoreto, the Papal Nuncio, reciting the King's writ of *supersedeas* directed to him with regard to the taxation of the temporalities of the bishopric of Bath and Wells in the parishes of St. Michael, of Hoggeslane, St. Bride's, and All Saints, of Fancherche, in the archdeaconry of London, and directing the Bishop to inform himself as to the truth of the contents of the writ and to bring the information when he is going to render his next account.

London, 10th Nov., A.D. 1331.

330. iv. Id., Dec., in the year abovesaid, at Glaston. Dispensation for John atte Broke, clerk, on account of birth.

331. Id., Dec., in the year aforesaid, at Euercrich. Licence for Thomas Le White, rector of the church of Kamelegh, subdeacon, to study for a year in England.

332. Bishop Ralph to the Archbishop of Canterbury certifying that he had as far as possible executed his order with regard to the punishments to be inflicted on Ela La Payne, wife of Sir Robert Fitz Payne, knight, for adultery. Fol. 47.

Banewell, 5 Jan., same year.

333. Certificate of Bishop Ralph to the Archbishop of Canterbury that he had caused John Beket, Edward de Beteslegh, Baldwin Pyke, John Cornwaille, Maurice Vaghan, Robert Frydai, Thomas Jordan, Henry de Soudbury, Nicholas de Kynardeseye, and Edmund de Kynesdeleye, to be cited to appear before him, and that Robert de Marnhullo could not be found. Fol. 47b.

Banewell, 6th Jan., A.D. 1331–[32].

334. Certificate of Bishop Ralph to the Archbishop of York intimating that he had admitted Sir Ralph de Brantyngham to the church of Hothum, diocese of York, and collated Sir Rayner de Coton to the church of Henton St. George, in the diocese of Bath and Wells, by reason of exchange between the two rectors.

Banewell, 4th Jan., same year.

335. 4th Jan., at Banewell, A.D. abovesaid. Admission of Rainer de Cotum, priest, to the church of Henton. Fol. 48.

336. The King's writ to the Bishop to cause John de Coston, parson of the church of Baudrip, to come before the justices, at Westminster, on the octaves of St. Hilary to answer to Philip de Whitecoumbe, of a plea that he render to him 20*s.* of an annual rent which are in arrear.

Westminster, 15th Oct., 5 Edw. iii [A.D. 1331]. Return "Citavimus."

337. The King's writ to the Bishop to cause Thomas de Coumbe, parson of the church of Seluere Monachorum, to come before the justices, at Westminster, on the quindene of St. Hilary to answer to William de Hywysch, of a plea that he render to him 40*s.*

Westminster, 8th Nov., 5 Edw. iii.

338. Like writ to cause Peter de Cotes, parson of the church of Exton, to come before the justices to answer to Philip de Okebeare, executor of the testament of Hawise de Pyn, to render an account.

Westminster, 15th Oct., 5 Edw. iii [A.D. 1331]. Return "non inventus," but cited in his church.

Fol 48b. 339. The King's writ to the Bishop to cause 20*li.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of William, vicar of the church of Kynemersden, to render to Agnes Samuel.

Westminster, 26th Nov., 5 Edw. iii [A.D. 1331]. Return "Satisfieri fecimus."

340. The King's writ to the Bishop ordering him that he cause to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the following people the sums underwritten to be paid to the abbot of Glaston, late collector of the clerical tenth, unless the debtors can show that they have previously satisfied those sums. Viz:—

5*s.* for the vicar of Montacute.
5*s.* 8*d.* for the rector of Cedene.
20*s.* for the rector of Moneketon.
5*s.* 4*d.* for the prebendary of Tymbrescom.
8*s.* for the prebendary of Whitchurch.
30*s.* for the prebendary of Jatton.
6*s.* 8*d.* for the prebendary of Lutton.
21*s.* 4*d.* for the rector of Wroxale.
6*s.* 8*d.* for the rector of Codecombe and Luggebere.
2*s.* 8*d.* for the pension of the nuns of Barwe.

Westminster, 6th Dec., 5 Edw. iii [A.D. 1331].

Return "Istud breve ita tarde venit ad manus nostras quod illud exequi non potuimus," etc.

341. 6th Jan., A.D. 1331, at Banewell. Admission of Sir Richard de Bury, *alias* de Sancto Edmundo, as a canon of Wells.

342. xvij Kal., Feb., A.D. 1331, at Banewell. Institution of

William de Bere, clerk, to the church of Horblonton. William Wason, lord of Horblonton, patron, John Bromfeld proxy.

343. Same day, &c. Licence for Walter, rector of Mere, to study till Michaelmas in England, but to reside in his church for three weeks in Lent.

344. 6th Jan. Licence for John de Barton to hear the divine office in his house for a year by a fit priest.

345. Bishop Ralph to his tenants of his manor of Kyngesbury informing them that he has granted to Master Thomas de Retforde, chancellor of Wells and rector of the church of Kyngesbury, *ad contemplacionem persone sue*, that he may hold all his crofts and meadows in the fields called Weston and Berugh, in the territory of his manor of Kyngesbury without claim of common by any tenant, as long as he is chancellor. Fol. 49.

346. xij Kal.. Feb., at Banewell. Dispensation for William de Monketon, clerk, concerning illegitimacy.

347. viij Kal., Feb., A.D. 1331, at Banewell. Institution of Thomas de Bloreton, acolyte to the church of Tymbresberne, patron Sir Michael de Waddon, knight.

348. vi Id., Feb., A.D. 1331, at Banewell. Admission of Master Helyas Walwayn, as canon of Wells.

349. Same day and place. Licence for Henry Toly, rector of Whethull, subdeacon, to study till the feast of St. Michael, in England.

350. xiv Kal., March, A.D. abovesaid, at Honyspille. Licence for Master John de Middeltone, rector of Temple Cumb, to hear confessions till Easter.

351. xij Kal., March, A.D., 1331, at Monektone. Letters dimissory of first tonsure for William de Kent. Fol. 49b.

352. x Kal., March, A.D. above. Archdeacon of Tanton to induct Master de la Felde to the church of Ake [Oake] to which he was instituted on exchange with Henry de la Forde, rector of Stoke Abbatis, diocese of Sarum.

353. Licence for the warden of the chapel of Stoke sub Hamedone to hear the confessions of his brethren and of the family of Sir John de Bello Campo, knight, lord of that vill, till Easter.
Estkoker, 25 Feb., A.D. 1331.

354. iv Kal., March, A.D. abovesaid, at Yerlyngton. Letters dimissory for Thomas de Wulverton, acolyte, to take holy orders.

355. On the same day the lord granted licence for Roger de Guldene, and Elizabeth his wife, to hear the divine office in the chapel of the Blessed Katherine in their court at Wyke for one year.

356. The subprior and chapter of Bath to Bishop Ralph asking him for licence to elect a prior in the room of Robert de Cloppecote, who is dead, and praying him to take part in the burial service of their said late prior.
Bath, Thursday next after the feast of St. Mathias the Apostle.
Licence for the subprior and chapter of Bath to elect a prior.
Euerecrich, iij Kal., March, A.D. 1331.
Fol. 50. The Bishop commits the custody of the priory of Bath to Roger de Wythiford, his bailiff of Pokelechurch.
Euerecrich, iij Kal., March, A.D. 1331.

357. 1st March in the year abovesaid. Commission for the rector of the church of Almesford to hear confessions.

358. Commission for Bishop Ralph to Masters Richard de Thisteldene, the treasurer, John Martel, and Robert Baldok, canons of Wells, to pronounce the purgation of John atte Pile and William de Elleworth, clerks, who were imprisoned, the former for the theft of a horse of William le Forister, of the value of one mark, in the hundred and deanery of Cruke, and

the latter for robbing the house of Sir William, chaplain of Fyfhyde, to the value of 40*s*., in the hundred of Wyuelescumb.

Radestoke, ij Non., March, in the year abovesaid.

359. iij Non., March, in the year abovesaid, at Bath. Licence for Sir Adam, rector of Loxtone, to study till Michaelmas.

360. Bishop Ralph to the provost of the city of Bath. Whereas we, of our grace and love of charity, have granted to the master and brethren of our hospital of St. John, of Bath, 100*s*. every year in recompence of the sheaves and other things which from of old they were wont to take from our predecessors, we command you that you do not omit to pay them 100*s*. from the rents of the city aforesaid.

Clauerton, 11 March, A.D. abovesaid.

361. Day before the Nones of March, A.D. abovesaid, at Radestoke. Licence for Master Thomas de Retford, chancellor of Wells, to hear confessions of all the subjects of the diocese until Easter.

362. Bishop Ralph to the Archbishop of Canterbury. We received the mandate of your reverend fatherhood x Kal., Feb., at Banewell. The mandate which is dated at Wyuelescomb, xv Kal., Feb., A.D. 1331, informs him that his former mandate against Ela, wife of Sir Robert Fitz Pain, had been too luke-warmly executed and requires him under pain of suspension from the celebration of the divine offices to execute this present mandate by having the said Ela apprehended, otherwise to cause her to be publicly cited in churches. Fol. 50b.

By authority of which mandate we have caused the said Ela to be sought everywhere in our diocese but she could not be apprehended. Wherefore we have caused the said Ela to be summoned in the places which it seemed expedient by the rectors, vicars or priests.

He never could learn that the said Ela had lived in his diocese from the time of the receipt of the first mandate, and asks him not to believe that that mandate was too luke-warmly executed, for in truth that night on which he received it at

Loccumbe, his clerks were employed the whole night about the execution of his orders.

Hemyngtone, 8 March, A.D. 1331.

Fol. 51. 363. Commission for Master John Mantel, the official, to admit, institute and induct, to grant letters dimissory for one order only and to confirm the election of Robert de Sutton as prior of Bath, in the absence of the Bishop.

Boclond, v Id., March, A.D. 1331.

364. vii Id., March, A.D. abovesaid, at the Frarie, *i.e.* [Witham]. Institution of William de Pillaunde, priest, to the third portion of the church of St. Bartholomew, of Crukurn, at the presentation of Sir Hugh de Courtenay, knight.

365. Commission for Ralph, prior of Tanton, to reconcile the said church which had been polluted by shedding of blood.

La Frarie, vij Id., March, A.D. 1331.

Fol. 52. 366. Stephen, Bishop of London, to Bishop Ralph, sending the letter of the Archbishop, containing the summons as follows :—

Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie, venerabile in Christo patri S eadem gracia Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi totius Anglie primati salutem. Cum magnificus princeps Philippus rex Francie consanguineus noster et quamplures alii reges et principes catholici zelo devocionis accensi ad recuperandum hereditatem dominicam de manibus inimicorum crucis Christi ad terram sanctam jam ordinauerint iter suum, et nos instanter requisierint ut una cum ipsis ad dictas partes ex causa predicta velimus personaliter proficisci. Et nos iter predictum assumentes multum cordi, ordinauerimus parliamentum nostrum apud Westmonasterium die Lune proximo post festum Sancti Gregorii Pape proximum futurum tenere et vobiscum ac cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus regni nostri super dicto itinere et aliis negociis nos et statum dicti regni ac aliarum terrarum nostrarum specialiter tangentibus, habere colloquium et tractatum et vobis in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tenemini firmiter injungendo mandaueri-

mus quod dictis die et loco personaliter intersitis nobiscum et cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus predictis super premissis tractaturi vestrumque consilium inpensuri. Et licet singulis episcopis predictis iniunxerimus quod quilibet eorum premuniri faciat priores, decanos et capitula ecclesiarum suarum cathedralium necnon archidiaconos et clerum suarum diocisium, quod iidem priores, decani et archidiaconi in propriis personis suis et quodlibet capitulorum predictorum per unum clerusque cuiuslibet diocesis per duos procuratores sufficientem potestatem ab ipsis capitulo et clero habentes dictis die et loco intersint ad faciendum et consenciendum hiis que tunc ibidem de communi consilio divina favente clemencia super premissis contigerit ordinari. Nolentes tamen dicta negocia nostra pro defectu premunitionum predictarum si forsan minus rite facte fuerint aliqualiter retardari, vobis mandamus rogantes quod premuniri faciatis priores, decanos et capitula ecclesiarum cathedralium ac etiam archidiaconos et totum clerum vestre provincie quod iidem priores, decani et archidiaconi in propriis personis suis et quodlibet capitulorum predictorum per unum clerusque cujuslibet diocesis per duos procuratores sufficientem potestatem ab ipsis capitulo et clero habentes sint in dicto die apud dictum locum ad consenciendum hiis que tunc ibidem de consilio regni nostri ordinari contigerit sicut predictum est. Et hoc nullatenus omittatis.

Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium xxviij die Januarii anno regni nostri, sexto.

Mandamus to the Bishop of London to summon the clergy of this diocese.

Wyuelescomb, iv Id., Feb., A.D. 1331.

Mandamus by the Bishop of London to Bishop Ralph to cause the clergy of his diocese to be cited.

Wikham, xiij Kal., March, in the year abovesaid.

367. iv Kal., March, in the year abovesaid, at Muleburne [Milbourn Port] near the abbey of Schirburn, in Dorset. Institution of John de Suttone, priest, to the vicarage of Woky, at the presentation of Master Walter Brown, subdean of Wells. Fol. 52b.

368. xiv Kal., April, in the year abovesaid [A.D. 1332], at

London. Letters dimissory for William de Tanton, subdeacon, to the orders of deacon and priest.

Same day, &c. Same for Thomas de le Rewe, of Dunsterre, clerk, to holy orders.

369. xvi Kal., April, in the year abovesaid, at London. Institution of William de Styntyscomb, priest, to the church of Broen [Brean]. Patron Sir Thomas de Berkelee, knight.

370. Quitclaim for ever by Walter Bursey to Sir Thomas, Lord de Berkelee, of all his right in the isle of Stepelholme and all lands, &c., which the said Walter Bursey holds in Upphall and Crucheston. Also quitclaim to the said Sir Thomas of the church of Broen. Hiis testibus. Dominis Johanne de Clyuedone, Johanne de Wroxhale, militibus, Waltero de Rodenye, Edmundo de Lyounds, Willielmo Arthur et aliis.

Portbur, 8 March, 6 Edw, iii.

371. xii Kal., April, in the year abovesaid, at London. Letters dimissory for William Le Whyte, of Bristol, subdeacon, to take the orders of deacon and priest.

372. xi Kal., April, in the year abovesaid, at London. Admission of Master Richard de Sancto Edmundo as a canon of Wells.

373. Bishop Ralph to the Archbishop of Canterbury. We have received your mandate of v Kal., March, in this form :—

Symon permissione diuina, &c. Multorum fida relatione ad nos pervenit quod quidam civitatis et diocesis Bathon' et Wellen' satanico zelo repleti occasione detectorum in visitatione nostra quam in dicta diocesi jure nostro metropolitico excercemus et processuum per ipsa detecta postea habitorum, contra vocatos coram nobis in eadem visitatione ad denunciandum de fama corrigendorum prout moris est et contra alios se per maliciam erigunt, minas intemptant, insidias parant et student qualiter propter veritatem et iusticiam opprimere valeant innocentes. Nos igitur talibus peruersorum machinacionibus obuiare

. . . vobis committimus et mandamus in virtute obedientie firmiter injungentes quatinus inhibeatis in locis in quibus fueritis et inhiberi faciatis publice et genere in omnibus et singulis ecclesiis vestre diocesis antedicte sub pena excommunicationis maioris quam in scienter contrauenientes culpis quorundam preteritis et facti qualitate hoc exigentibus canonica monicione premissa proferimus in hiis scriptis, nequis occasione visitacionis nostre predicte vel detectorum in ea aliquem cuiuscumque fuerit condicionis aut status clam vel palam grauet aliquatenus vel molestet in re vel persona, &c.

Corscome, viii Kal., March, A.D. 1331.

Cuius auctoritate mandati inhibuimus, &c.

London, x Kal., April, A.D. 1331.

374. x Kal., April, A.D. abovesaid, at London. Licence for John de Schiplake, rector of Craucomb [Crowcombe], to follow in the service of Sir Hugh de Audelegh till the feast of St. Michael. Fol. 53.

375. ix Kal., April, in the year abovesaid, at London. Licence for Oliver de Crettone, rector of Cherlecomb, to follow in the service of John de Stodlegh, usher of the King's hall until the feast of St. Michael.

376. x Kal., April. Licence for Richard de Brankescomb, rector of Northcateburi, to study for a year.

Vacated because under date at Blakeford, Id. July.

377. Procuratorial letter for Master Robert de Wygornia, Doctor of Civil Law, to act for Bishop Ralph at the court of Rome against the Archbishop of Canterbury. Fol. 53b.

Sealed by the Papal Nuncio 23 March, A.D. 1331.

Here the date is changed, and A.D. 1332 begins. Fol. 54

378. vij Kal., April, at London. Admission of John de Eysy, clerk, as a canon of Wells.

379. Commission for the dean of Sarum to induct John Randolf of Coleshull perpetual vicar in the church of Sarum, into

the wardenship of the house of St. Katherine, Bristol, upon an exchange made between him and Sir Richard atte Pondfolde, of Borwardeskotewyke, warden of the said house.
London, vij Kal., April, A.D. 1332.

380. iij Non., April, in the year abovesaid at Okstede. Licence for William Iressch, acolyte, to hold an ecclesiastical benefice notwithstanding illegitimacy.

381. Day before the Nones of April, year abovesaid, at Okstede. Institution of John de Westmancote, priest, to the church of Strete, at the presentation of the abbey and convent of Glaston.

382. Same day, in the parish church of Okstede, diocese of Winchester, by licence of Bishop John. Ordination of William Pieres, of Wedmore, rector of Northstoke, subdeacon, as deacon.

Fol 54b. 383. Day before the Nones of April, A.D. 1332, at Okstede. Letters dimissory for the said William Pieres to take the order of priest.

384. Same day in the parish church of Okstede, Ralph atte Rode, diocese of Hereford, clerk, ordained acolyte.

385. x Kal., May. Licence for John de Seyntlou to have divine services celebrated in his chapel of Nyweton for a year. Granted at Banewell.

386. ix Kal., May, at Banewell. Letters dimissory for William de Wodeford to take holy orders.

387. Bishop Ralph to John, Bishop of Winchester, or his vicar general, John de Kenelworth. rector of a moiety of the church of Merlaghe, diocese of Winchester, and Nicholas de Bliburgh, rector of Dogmeresfeld, of the same diocese, of our presentation, desire to exchange benefices. We present the said John to the said church.
Banewell, viij Kal., May, A.D. 1332.

388. vi Kal., May, at Banewell. Licence for Master Nicholas de Crouke, rector of Henton Monachorum, deacon, to study for a year in England.

389. Same day. Licence for Margery La Iressch to have divine Services celebrated in her chapels of Middletone and Bageworth for a year.

390. Day before the Kal. of May in the year above, at Yatton, by authority of a commission of Adam Bishop of Worcester, the Bishop of Bath and Wells arranged for the exchange between Sir John de Sobbury, rector of Cold Ashton, diocese of Worcester, and William de Clopcote, canon and prebendary of Combe Noua, and rector of Schepton Malet, diocese of Bath and Wells.

391. Acta Magistri Johannis Martel Canonici cathedralis ecclesie Wellensis venerabilis patris domini Radulphi Dei gratia Bathonensis et Wellensis Episcopi vicarii in spiritualibus deputati, ipso patre extra suam diocesim existente. Fol. 55.

12 March, A.D. 1331, at Clauerton. Confirmation of the election of Brother Robert de Suttone, monk of Bath, as prior of that church.

xiij Kal., April, same year. Institution of Sir Richard de Poterne, priest, to the vicarage of Tanton.

Kal., April, A.D. 1332. Institution of Master William de Columbrigg, having the first tonsure, to the church of Wottone. Patrons the prior and monks of Stokecurcy.

iij Id., April, A.D. 1332. Institution of Sir Robert de Dudmartone to the vicarage of Southbrente. Patron Archdeacon of Wells.

xvij Kal., May, in the said year. Arrangement for exchange between Sir Henry Triuet, then rector of Oterhamtone, and Sir John then vicar of Poulet, both in the diocese of Bath and Wells. Patrons of Poulet the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, Bristol. Patron of Oterhamtone Sir Philip de

Columbariis, knight, by reason of the wardship of John Triuet, lord of Oterhamtone.

There are no more acts of Master John aforesaid.

392. Certificate by Nicholas de la Wyle, precentor of Sarum, that he had instituted John Randolf, of Coleshull, to the wardenship of the house of St. Katherine, Bristol, upon exchange with Richard atte Pondfolde. Sarum, iij Id., April, in the said year.

Fol. 55b 393. Absolution of William, son of John Le Gieu, by Bishop Ralph from the sentence of greater excommunication which he incurred by laying violent hand on Roger de Hertelegh, the Bishop's clerk.

Jattone, v Id., May, A.D. 1332.

394. Same day and place. Licence for Helias, rector of Crchcheston, to let his church to farm for three years.

395. vij Kal., June, in the year above, at Chieu. Licence for John de Mortone and Alice de Mortone to have divine services celebrated in their chapel of St. James, of Morton, for five years.

396. Bishop Ralph to Master Wibert de Lutultone, canon of Wells and prebendary of Wytlakynton.

Hinc est quod domos illas quas Magister Robertus de Wambergh antequam archidiaconatum Wellensem habuerat inhabitare Wellia consueuit: quam etiam bone memorie dominus Johannes predecessor noster Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus domino Michaeli de Drokenesford Canonico Wellensi contulit . . . . tibi conferimus, quamdiu Canonicus Wellensis fueris libere possidendas.

Chieu, Kal., June, A.D. 1332.

397. xvi Kal., June, in the year above, at Chieu. Licence for Sir Geoffrey de Hauteuyll, knight, and his family to confess to Brother Nicholas de Berkelegh.

398. xv Kal., June, the year above. Licence for Brother John Fartheyn, of the order of Friars Preachers, dwelling at Bristol, to hear confessions.

399. xiii Kal., June, in the year abovesaid, at Pokelechurch. Fol. 56. Licence for Brother William de Shropham, of the order of Bethlehem, to expound the affairs of the order and church of Bethlehem.

400. x Kal., June, in the year above, at Pokelechurch. Licence for Brothers Ralph de la Haye, the warden, and John Fraunceys, senior reader of the order of Friars Minors, Bristol, to hear confessions for a year.

401. Same day and place. Indulgence for those who give alms to the Hospital of the Holy Cross and B. Mary Magdalen, Bath.

402. vi. Kal., June. Institution of Robert de la Diche, priest, to the church of Telesford. Patron Sir Walter de Paveli, knight.

403. 28 May, in the year above, at Euercrich. Licence for Hugh de Langebrugge, citizen of Bristol, to erect an altar and have divine services celebrated in his mansion at Bristol before himself and his wife.

404. Mandate of Bishop Ralph to his steward, bailiffs, officers, &c., to be aiding to Walter de Rodeney, keeper and surveyor of all his parks.

Jatton, 4 June, in the third year of our consecration.

405. Robert Bishop of Sarum, to Bishop Ralph. We have received your letters asking us to arrange for exchange of benefices between Sir John Prince, rector of the church of Sweneswyke, of your diocese, and Thomas de Risyndon, vicar of Chippenham, of our diocese, dated at Chieu 27 May, A.D. 1332, which we approve, and do institute the said John to the church of Chippenham, at the presentation of Edmund Husee.

At our park of Remmesbury, Kal., June, A.D. abovesaid.

406. Nones of June, year above, at Jattone. Institution of William de Eckleshale, priest, to the vicarage of Wynesford, vacant by the resignation of Sir Henry de Kynemersford. Patrons, the prior and canons of Berlich.

Resignation of Henry de Kynemeresford, vicar of Wynes-
Fol. 57. ford.

407. Day before the Kal. of June. Mandate to the Archdeacon of Bath to induct Thomas de Risyngdon, priest, into the church of Sweyneswyke.

408. Commission by Bishop Ralph to Robert, Bishop of Sarum, concerning an exchange of benefices between Robert de Beauchamp, rector of Lymyngton, and Master Richard de Welyngton, rector of Esgarstone. Institution of Robert de Beauchamp to the church of Esgarstone, and Master Richard to the church of Lymyngton, to which he was presented by the lord John de Bello Campo.

Jatton, viii. Id., June, A.D. above.

409. Commission by Bishop Ralph to Master John Martel, his official, to confirm the election of, and install John de Suttone as prior of Bath.

Boclond, v. Id., March, A.D. 1331[–32].

Fol. 57b. 410. Die dominica proxima post festum Ascensionis Domini, videlicet, pridie Kal. Junii Anno Domini Millesimo ccc^mo xxxij., dominus dedicauit ecclesiam et cimiterium de Henges-trigge cum quatuor altaribus in ecclesia prelibata.

Juraverunt etiam parochiani dicte ecclesie tactis sacrosanctis Euangeliis quorum statim nomina subsequuntur se velle conseruare dominum indempnem penitus et illesum, si forsan in futuro aliquis legittime compereret causam racionabilem ostensurus quare huiusmodi dedicacio fieri nullatenus debuisset. Et hoc fiebat in presencia Magistri Roberti de Chigewell, notarii publici et plurium testium ad id vocatorum et specialiter rogatorum.

Et hec sunt nomina juratorum.

Ricardus Le Thomere.
Willielmus Basset.
Johannes Basset.
Galfridas Le Warynner.
Johannes Le Heir.
Ricardus Symond.
Ricardus Le Smyth.
Thomas de Thornezete.
Ricardus Phelip.
Thomas Syreuwe.
Radulphus Fynamour.
Johannes in the Merssch.

411. vi Id., June A.D. above, at Jattone. Dispensation for Robert de Hampton, clerk, concerning illegitimacy, and that he can hold an ecclesiastical benefice. Fol. 58.

412. Ordinance concerning the farms of the churches appropriated to the church of Wells, doubts having arisen amongst the brethren and canons.

Farm of Congresbury for 45*li.*

Farm of the moiety of the church of Whitchurch, diocese of Salisbury, for 33*li.* 6*s.* 8*d.*

Ceddre, 36*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

Stokegummere, 50*li.*

Lydierd, 35*li.*

Grange of the canons of Wells, 90*li.*

Modiford and Lovyngton, 35*li.*

To be paid to the Communarius at four terms in augmentation of the canons resident.

If the canons holding the said farms for three continuous years after they have got the farms shall absent themselves from the said church, and shall not have completed the annual residence, their farms shall be assigned to the canons in residence and those willing to reside.

It shall only be lawful for a canon to hold one farm. But the chapter assents that John de Godelee, the dean, may hold the

farm of the church of Wydesham, which he now holds, at the same rent (census).

Presentibus in capitulo. Domino Johanne de Godelee, Decano, Magistris Thoma de Retford, Cancellario, Ricardo de Thistelden, Thesaurario, Roberto Herward, Archidiacono Tantonensi, Wiberto de Lutelton, Waltero de Burtone, Roberto de Clipstone, Laurencio de la Barre, Johanne Martel, Willielmo de Pencriz, Thoma de Haselschawe, Michaele de Eston, Henrico de Fulleham, et Johanne Pymme, Canonicis eiusdem ecclesie et procuratoribus aliorum Canonicorum, &c. Necnon Magistro Johanne de Middelton, Hugone de Alresford, et Stephano Trippe, testibus ad hoc vocatis et rogatis.

Wells, Friday next after the feast of the Annunciation, A.D. 1332.

413. iv Id., June, year above, at Jattone. Licence for William Artur, priest, to celebrate divine services in fit places and churches for a year.

414. xvi Kal., July, same year, at Jattone. The lord absolved John Huet, priest, and William Motoun, subdeacon, from the sentence of excommunication for laying violent hands on John Le Forister, clerk.

415. xv Kal., July, same year, at Jatton. Dispensation for Richard de Steuynton concerning illegitimacy, and xiiij Kal., July, letters dimissory for him to be ordained to holy orders.

Fol. 59. 416. Certificatory act of John, Bishop of Exeter, to Sir Guygo de St. German, Reeve of Avisio the Pope's chaplain, upon the citation of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the appeal by the Bishop of Bath and Wells concerning the manner of visiting the said churches (Bath and Wells), and also the other churches of the city and diocese of Bath and Wells by the said archbishop, and concerning other injuries or troubles done to the bishop and his said churches.

Dated in our episcopal manor of Clist, near our city of Exeter, 16 June, A.D. 1332.

Presentibus nobilibus viris et discretis, dominis Petro et Otone de Graunsoun, Thoma West, ac Roberto de Neuburgh, militibus. Ricardo de Gommerssale, rectore ecclesie de Didesham, Johanne de Eysi, Canonico Exonensi, Johanne de Arderne, clerico London' diocesis.

417. Notarial instruments of Robert de Chigewell, clerk, of the diocese of Norwich, and David Alyam, clerk, of the diocese of Exeter, in the same matter. Fol. 60.

418. Mandate by Bishop Ralph to all his tenants, free and others, of his manor of Euerecrich to be aiding to Hugh de Etone, keeper of the park at Euerecrich, and farm-bailiff there.

Given under our private seal, at Jattone, 26 June, the third year of our consecration.

419. Absolution of Ralph de Gorges from excommunication. Cheddre, 1 July, A.D. 1332.

420. iii Kal., July, same year, at Jattone. Institution of Richard de Chudderlegh, clerk, in the person of Master W. de Banewell, his proxy, to the church of Corscomb, vacant by resignation of John Forman. Patron Elias Cotel, knight.

421. Same day and place. Institution of John de Stanwigge, priest, to the vicarage of the parish church of Modeford, presented by the dean and chapter of Wells.

422. vi Id., July, same year, at Blakeford. Licence for Richard de Brankescomb, rector of Northcatebury, to study for a year. But to reside personally at Lent for two weeks, and at the time of the lord bishop's visitation.

423. Bishop Ralph to Icherius de Concoreto, the Papal Nuncio, general collector of the quadrennial tenth in England, Scotland, Wales, and Ireland, certifying that he had appointed the abbots of Glaston and Keynesham, and the prior of Taunton as subcollectors in his diocese, and had cited them to appear in his house in London within the term mentioned in his letters. Fol. 60b.

Blakeford, xvi Kal., August, same year.

Fol. 61. 424. xiij Kal., Aug., same year, at Blakeford. Institution of Sir John de Fauystoke, priest, to the vicarage of Modeford, (Mudford by Yeovil), vacant by the resignation of Sir John de Stanwigge. Presented by the dean and chapter of Wells.

425. ix Kal., Sept., same year, at Blakeford. Appointment of Roger de Kynardeslegh, monk of Bath, as precentor. Same day, the prior and chapter were asked to permit him to exercise the said office.

426. iv Kal., Aug., same year, at Blakeford. Licence for Robert Alwy, rector of Bledone, to study for three years and to be absent from his church, except at Lent and the visitation.

427. Commission by Bishop Ralph for Master Richard de Thiseldene, treasurer of Wells, to confer on Robert de Tantone, clerk, any dignity, office or ecclesiastical benefice in the church of Wells, with or without cure, now vacant, and to induct him thereto.

Blakeford, Kal., Aug., A.D. 1332.

Fol. 61b. 428. John, Bishop of Winchester, to the official of the Archdeacon of Winchester. Some sons of iniquity, whose names are unknown, have broken into the park and fishery of Dogmeresfeld, pertaining to the venerable father Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and have fished the fishery and stolen the goods of the said father. We order that you cause all the violators to be publicly denounced with the sentence of greater excommunication and that you enquire touching the names of such malefactors and have the guilty before us on the third judicial day after the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Godestowe, x Kal., Aug., A.D. 1332.

429. Bishop Ralph to the treasurer of Wells. Quia ex relatu intelleximus fi[illegible]edigno quod in edificiis vestimentis ornamentis et aliis rebus multis ad preposituram ecclesie nostre Wellenn predicte pertinentibus, ita notabiles et notorii sunt defectus, quod ipsi absque sumptuum imposicione magnorum commode nequeunt reparari . . . Vobis in virtute obedientie firmiter injungi-

mus et mandamus quatinus super defectibus supradictis absque more dispendio juxta formam concilii seu statuti per reuerendum patrem dominum S. Dei gracia Cantuar Archiepiscopum totius Anglie Primatem nuper hoc Londonia super editi, diligentius inquiratis, &c.

Blakeford iij Non., Aug., same year.

430. vij Id., Aug., same year, at Blakeford. Licence for Brother Roger de Crutelyngtone monk of Bath, to hear confessions. Fol. 62.

431. Id., Aug., same year, at Blakeford. Institution of Nicholas Payn, clerk, to the church of Sandford. Patron Sir Bartholomew Payn.

432. Bishop Ralph to Master Robert de Ailleston, Archdeacon of Berks, the King's treasurer.

Amice dilectissime, intimauit nobis dilectus clericus noster lator presentium, quod pretextu cujusdam suggestionis inique per nostros malevolos forsitan vobis facte, qui cum prodesse nequeant nec affectant, colores ut aliis noceant adinveniunt exquisitos, de pecunia nobis debita juxta mandatum regium vobis factum nobis satisfacere distulistis. Unde cum non omni prout scitis spiritui sit credendum, set illi tantummodo qui capitali odio proculpulso suggerit veritatem: vellemus libenter quod huiusmodi mendaces detractores horrendi et nepharii versipelles, qui quasi non gaudent nisi quando suis possunt maliciis viros pacificos et presertim ecclesiasticos infestare curarent suggestionem vobis factam verificare prout hoc facere tenerentur; set quia suggestio vobis facta quod videlicet cujusdam manerii seu heredis in prejudicium regium habuimus et habemus est falsissima pro constanti. Scimus reuera quod probacio veritatis super suggestione hujusmodi facta, est inpossibilis in eternum: quod vobis constabit aperte per inquisiciones et per alias evidencias qualescumque super hoc inposterum optinendas. Propter quod vestram dilectionem requirimus et rogamus, quatinus cum ad presens grauibus debitorum oneribus opprimamur, ex causis videlicet quas vobis poterit lator presentium declarare, velitis nobis de peccunia nobis debita satisfacere sicut

decet, prout uobis iste lator nostro nomine supplicabit, et juxta id quod dominus noster rex suas vobis literas destinat iterato.

Blakeford, 13 August.

433. xi Kal., September same year, at Blakeford. Licence for William de Beere, rector of Hornbloutone, to study for a year in England.

Fol. 62b. Same day and place. Letters dimissory for the same William (de Beere) to be ordained subdeacon.

434. Radulphus permissione divina, &c. Archidiacono Tauntonensi aut eius officiale, salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Cum nuper iniquitatis filii degeneres et ingrati, contra matrem suam ecclesiam nequiter oberrantes, solum nostrum ecclesiasticum apud Boclond ad nos et quoscumque alios episcopos Bathonienses et Wellenses notorie pertinens atque clausum absque grata nostra permissione vel eorum qui huiusmodi custodie extiterant deputati, causa mali perpetrandi intrauerint vi armata, ministrumque nostrum, ac huiusmodi custodem verberauerint, vulnerauerint et ipsum dimiserint semivivum . . . Quocirca vobis in virtute obediente firmiter injungimus et mandamus, quatinus in singulis ecclesiis parochialibus vestri archidiaconatus quolibet die dominico intra missarum solempnia cum major affuerit populi multitudo, moniciones publicas faciatis, ita quod ad ipsorum malefactorum noticiam predicte moniciones verisimiliter valeant peruenire quod omnes huiusmodi delinquentes et singuli eorundem, necnon et alii qui in hiis consilium prestiterint auxilium vel fauorem; pro huiusmodi suis commissis nobis et ecclesie nostre ut premittitur matri sue, quibus injuriam taliter intulerunt citra festum sancti Michaelis proximum futurum in forma juris satisfaciant ut tenentur, sub pena excommunicationis majoris, &c.

Datum apud Blakeford, xij Kal., Septembris, anno, &c.

435. Mandate of the Papal Nuncio to the bishop to levy the fruits, &c., of the wardenship of Wells which are sequestrated on account of Master Alan de Conynbur', the warden, not having

rendered an account of his collection of debts due to the subsidy of the first fruits of vacant benefices.

London, 27 August, A.D. 1332.

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## Mandatum Londonensis Episcopi pro concilio ibidem celebrando.

436. Venerabili in Christo patri domino. R. Dei gratia Bathonensi et Wellensi Episcopo, Stephanus permissione eiusdem. London' Episcopus, salutem, et sincere dilectionis continuum incrementum. Mandatum reuerendi in Christi patris domoni Symonis Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi tocius Anglie primatis, et apostolice sedis legati, recepimus tenorem continens infrascriptum. Symon permissione diuina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi tocius Anglie primas et apostolice sedis legatus, venerabili fratri nostro, domino Stephano Dei gratia London' Episcopo salutem et fraternam in Domino caritatem. Sanctorum patrum digesta decreuit auctoritas per singulas prouincias, modis omnibus semel in anno concilia celebrari, per que deprauata corrigerentur et ut super excessibus presertim in clero diligens in eisdem haberetur cum Dei timore tractatus. Nos siquidem per aliqua tempora prepediti, quominus Conuentum ipsorum et cleri pro concilio huiusmodi celebrando facere potuimus, sicut inpedimento cessante, nos reputaremus astrictos, juxta decreta predicta oportunitate jam captata, quin potius urgente artius necessitate, ad honorem Dei et ecclesie Anglicane, ipso prestante, qui potest cum voluerit errata corrigere, et contra ecclesiastice libertatis neruum; presumpta sue virtutis potencia reformare concilium prouinciale conuocandum decreuimus et cciam celebrandum, ut in eo de corrigendis et reformandis, et utilitatem ecclesiarum et cleri totius provincie Cantuariensis vobiscum et cum ceteris coepiscopis et fratribus nostris, ac eodem clero tractemus, et cum Dei adjutorio faciamus et ordinemus que ad ejus laudem, et salutem animarum ordinanda fuerint et tractanda. Fraternitati igitur vestre, committimus, et firmiter Fol. 63.

iniungendo mandamus, quatinus venerabiles fratres nostros, Episcopos, electos, confirmatos, abbates, priores electiuos plenum Conuentum habentes, abbates supra se non habentes, decanos, prepositos, archipresbiteros, archidiaconos et capitula ac collegia universa: necnon et clerum cuiuslibet diocesis nostre Cantuariensis provincie, citetis, seu citari faciatis peremptorie, quod iidem venerabiles fractres Episcopi, electi, abbates, priores, decani, prepositi, archipresbiteri, et archidiaconi personaliter. predictaque capitula collegia per unum, clerusque cujuslibet diocesis per duos procuratores ydoneos compareant coram nobis in ecclesia sancti Pauli London' quarto die mensis Septembris proximo futuro super premissis omnibus tractaturi, suumque ad ea que inspirante Domino, provide ordinabuntur ibidem pro seipsis et aliis a quibus mittentur plenum adhibitura consensum, ulteriusque facturi et recepturi, cum continuacione et prorogacione dierum usque ad finem eiusdem nostri concilii quod fuerit faciendum. Vos enim premunimus, et ceteros citandos per vos premuniri mandamus, quod absentes in termino supradicta, nisi propter evidentes causas et racionabiles, de quibus fidem facere tenebuntur fuerint impediti, tamquam inobedientes et contumaces juxta juris exigenciam puniemus. Vos eciam peremptorie citamus ad hoc idem, clerumque vestre diocesis per vos citari mandamus in forma superius annotata. Quid autem in premissis feceritis nos dictis die et loco certificare curetis, per vestras literas patentes harum seriem continentes; et ceteris nostris suffrageneis antedictis injungatis, ut nos ipsis die et loco certificent per suas patentes literas, literarum per vos eis in hac parte dirigendarum tenorem habentes, quid in premissis facerint aut duxerint faciendum. Datum apud Mortelake, x Kal., Augusti anno Domini milesimo ccc^mo^, xxxij^do^. et nostre consecrationis quinto.

Cujus auctoritate mandati districte vobis iniungimus per presentes, quatenus idem mandatum, quatenus vestros concernit, subditos, iuxta ipsius vim, formam, seriem, et effectum, in vestra diocese absque more dispendio plenarie exequamini, vel per alios ydoneos exequi faciatis. Vos eciam eadem auctoritate peremptorie citamus quatinus predictis die et loco in prefato concilio iuxta mandati predicti exigenciam personaliter intersitis. Et quid faceritis in premissis prefatum patrem dictis die et loco distincte et aperte

certificare curetis per vestras patentes horum seriem et citatorum nomina plenarie continentes.

Datum apud Fulham, sexto Kalend. Augusti, anno Domini supradicto.

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## Incipit annus consecracionis Domini quartus.

Fol. 63b.

437. viij Id., Sept., A.D. 1332, at London. Institution of Thomas de Foxtone, priest, to the vicarage of Northpederdene, presented by brother Leonard Tibert, prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

438. Bishop Ralph absolves brother Philip de Gepillar', prior of Goltlina (Goldcliff. co. Mon.) diocese of Landaf, from the sentence of excommunication which he had incurred by reason of the non-payment of the tenth for the churches of Wollauyngton, Puritone, and Staweye.

Dated as above.

439. Bishop Ralph to the archbishop of Canterbury. We have received the mandate of Stephen, bishop of London (as is contained on the other side of this folio). And these are the names of those cited :—

The dean of Wells.
The chapter of the same.
The prior of Bath.
The chapter of the same.
The warden of Wells.
The archdeacons of Wells, Bath, and Taunton.
The abbots of Glaston, Mucheln, Keynesham and Athelnye.
The priors of Taunton and Bruton.
And the clergy of Bath and Wells.
Dogmeresfeld, iv Non., Sept.

440. Licence for John de Godelee, dean of Wells, to be absent as long as he shall be engaged about the fabric of the church of Wells.

At London.

Fol. 64. 441. Licence by Henry, bishop of Lincoln, for Sir John de Horwode, rector of Horspathe, to follow in the service of Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells for a year.

Old Temple, London, Id., Sept., A.D. 1332.

442. iv Id., Sept., in the year above, at London. Letters dimissory for Master Henry de Luttleton, rector of Spaxtone, deacon, to be ordained priest.

443. iij Id., Sept., in the year above, at London. Licence for Sir Robert Pil, rector of Crukern, priest, to follow in the service of Sir Hugh de Courtenay, for a year.

And under the same date, place, and tenour, the lord granted to Stephen Seuern, rector of Hardyngtone, that he can follow in the service of the said noble man for a year.

444. Day before the Id. Sept., at London. Letters dimissory for Robert Grey, of Lamport, clerk, to take the lesser and greater orders.

445. Bishop Ralph to John Martel, his official.

Because it appears to us by your letters patent that Sir Andrew Sprengthese, rector of the church of Wryngtone, was condemned in a certain sum of money to be paid to Master John de Leith, rector of the church of Melles, at certain terms now past, and has not taken care to pay, thereby incurring the pain of excommunication. We command you that you study to do justice on the behalf of the said Master John.

London, Saturday next before the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

446. xv Kal., Oct., at Dogmeresfeld, in the year above. Letters dimissory for Master Robert de Stonore, canon of Wells, to be ordained to all minor orders, and to the order of deacon.

447. xviij Kal., Oct., in the year above, at London. Licence for Oliver de Greytone, rector of Cherlecombe, to be absent for one [year].

448. Collation by Bishop Ralph of Master Henry de Clyf to the canonry and prebend of Waltham, in the church of Cicester, vacant by the resignation of Master Walter de Burle, who exchanged his canonry and prebend of Schaldeford, in the church of Wells, with the said Henry. Fol. 64b.

Collation of Master Walter de Burle to the abovesaid canonry and prebend of Schaldeford.

Commission of John, bishop of Cicester, for the exchange of the said prebends.

London, xviij Kal., Oct., A.D. 1332.

449. Radulphus, &c., dilectis in Christo filiis subpriori ac universis et singulis Monachis et parsonis ecclesie Bathon', necnon omnibus aliis et singulis quos infrascriptum negotium tangit seu tangere poterit, salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Accedens ad nos frater Radulphus Ganard procurator venerabilis et religiosi viri fratris Thome Cristi quasdam literas apostolicas nobis exhibens graciosas, et processus super hiis factos per venerabilem verum Magistrum Byndum Bardinell Canonicum Fusulan' executorem super hiis a sede apostolica deputatum, petiit instanter ut predictum fratrem Thomam Christi secundem formam gratie a sede apostolica sibi facte et processuum super ea habitorum, in Priorem ecclesie Bathon', et ad prioratum ipsum admitteremus et reciperimus cum effectu. Nos volentes mandatis apostolicis ut tenemur humiliter obedire, predictum fratrem Thomam quatenus mandatum apostolicum exigit et requirit ad prioratum ipsum ecclesie Bathon' admittimus et recipimus in Priorem, &c. Fol. 65.

Dogmeresfeld, viij Kal., Oct., anno, &c.

450. Mandate of Icherius de Concoreto, the Papal Nuncio, and collector of the fruits, rents, and issues of the first year of all benefices vacant, reciting—

(1) Bull of Pope John xxij, addressed to the archbishop of Canterbury, and his suffragans, &c.

Dudum, videlicet, ij Kal., Septembris pontificatus nostri, anno xiij, pro magnis ecclesie Romane necessitatibus, &c., fructus, redditus et proventus primi anni, omnium et singulorum beneficiorum ecclesiasticorum, &c., auctoritate apostolica reser-

vauimus, &c. Attendentes itaque quod adeo necessitates et onera huiusmodi dictis hereticis et sismaticis et rebellibus dirius solito contra denarios ac easdem fidem et ecclesiam sevientibus augmentantur, quod ecclesia ipsa majori et ampliori subsidio
Fol. 65b. pro sui ac fidei defensione predicte noscitur indigere, hujusmodi reservacionem et applicacionem reddituum, fructuum et prouentuum predictorum a fine dicti triennii usque ad unum annum extunc complendum continue auctoritate predicta extendimus exigendorum, colligendorum, et percipiendorum per dictum annum modo et forma et condicionibus quibus eos reseruavimus ad triennium ut prefertur. Quocirca universitatem vestram rogamus, monemus et hortamus attentius, vobis per apostolica scripta nihilominus districte percipiendo mandantes quatinus premissas necessitates diligentius attendentes, dicteque ecclesie pio compacientes effectu, predictos fructus, redditus et proventus primi anni per eundem annum a collectore super hoc deputato et subcollectoribus suis exigi permittatis libere percipi et levari, &c.

Id. Decembris pontificatus nostri anno xliij.

(2) Bull of Pope John xxij to Icherius de Concoreto of the same date, reciting the preceding bull (1), and ordering the archbishop, by the authority of those bulls to certify him concerning all the benefices which shall happen to be vacant in the said year.

London, 1 Sept., A.D. 1332.

Fol. 66b. 451. Simon, archbishop of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph, sends the letters of the Papal Nuncio to inspect and retain a copy thereof, and orders him to certify the said Nuncio as the tenour of the said letters requires.

Mortelake, Id., Sept., A.D. 1332.

452. Icherius de Concoreto, the Papal Nuncio, to Bishop Ralph.

Recites the bulls of Pope John last mentioned bulls, and appoints him sub-collector of the same fruits, rents, and profits notwithstanding that by his other letters directed to the lords the archbishop of Canterbury and his suffragans, he had ordered

that those holding benefices should be cited to appear before him (Icherius) on a certain day.

In other things he wills that the letters hold good.

London, Sept., A.D. 1332.

453. Bishop Ralph provides Thomos Flouř, of Southpederton, a poor clerk of his diocese, with the vicarage of Dulvertone, vacant by the death of Sir Adam, the last vicar, in accordance with the apostolic mandate. Fol. 67.

Whitchurch, viij Kal., Oct., A.D. 1332.

Mandate by Bishop Ralph to the abbot of Mucheln, Master Walter de Wyke, rector of Stokelynch, and Sir Walter, rector of the church of Chipstaple, to induct the said Thomas de Flouř to the vicarage of the church of Dulüertone, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton.

Dated as above.

454. 1 Oct., A.D. 1332, at Euercrich. Licence for John de Bourne, rector of the church of Wrythyngtone, deacon, to study for a year in England. Fol. 67b.

455. Radulphus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus omnibus ballivis, ministrie et tenentibus suis salutem. Quia prefecimus dilectum nobis in Christo Robertum de Hungreford Seneschallum nostrum, vobis mandamus quod eidem Roberto ad omnia officium suum tangentia intendentes sitis et respondentes.

Datum apud manerium nostrum de Chieu tercio die mensis Octobris Anno Domini millesimo ccc$^{mo}$ xxxij$^{do}$ et consecrationis nostra quarto.

456. Tercio Nonarum Octobris, loco predicto dominus prelibatus concessit Magistro Roberto de Stonore, Canonico Wellensi, quod ab isto die per biennium sibi possit eligere ydoneum confessorem, et eidem confessori per ipsum sic electo, dicto durante termino, dominus commisit vices suas, eciam in casibus sibi specialiter reseruatis.

457. Uniuersis Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes litere perve-

nerint, Radulphus, &c., salutem in Domina sempiternam. Noueritis nos concessisse, et pro nobis et successoribus nostris, licenciam dedisse domino Hamelino de Godelee quod ipse unum messuagium et omnes terras et tenementa que fuerunt Philippi de Droknesford filii et heredis Philippi de Droknesford in Okhamptone in parochia de Wyvelescomba que sunt de feodo nostro dare possit et assignare Decano et Capitulo ecclesie nostre Wellensis.

Habendum et tenendum sibi et successoribus suis de nobis et successoribus nostris per servitia prius inde debita et consueta imperpetuum. Soluendo eciam nobis et successoribus nostris post mortem cujuslibet Decani successiue decedentis nomine relevii, C. solidos argenti.

Datum apud Chiew quarto die mentis Octobris Anno Domino millesimo ccc^mo xxxij^do et consecrationis nostre quarto.

458. iv. Kal., Oct., in the year abovesaid, at Chiew, by authority of the commission of the lord John, by the grace of God, bishop of Exeter, the lord bishop of Bath and Wells, arranged the matter of exchange lawfully made between Sir Robert de Pippecote, rector of the church of Affetone, diocese of Exeter, and Sir Audoen de Corg, rector of the church of Hethfeld, diocese of Bath, and instituted the said Sir Robert to the church of Hethfeld aforesaid, to which he was presented by Brother Leonard Tiberty, prior of the house of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England. Saving a certain annual pension of 18*s.* to the preceptor and brethren of Boclonde, of his diocese, &c. And the said Sir Audoen he instituted to the said church of Affatone to which he was presented by the prior of the monastery of the Blessed Nicholas, of Exeter, and the convent of the same place, of the order of St. Benedict.

459. Bishop Ralph to John, bishop of Exeter.

We have received your letter, &c. (The letter dated at Clist, 16 June, A.D. 1332, concerning the exchange between Sir Robert de Pippecote and Audoen de Cory recited in full). By authority of which commission, &c., we have instituted the aforesaid Sir Audoen to the said church of Affatone, in the person of Master Stephen de Pippecote, his proxy.

Chiew, iv. Non., Oct., A.D. above.

460. Day before Non. Oct., in the year abovesaid. Institution of Sir William de Auene, priest, to the church of Stauntone Monachorum (Stanton Prior), to which he was presented by the prior and convent of Bath. Fol. 68.

461. Radulphus, &c., dilecto in Christo filio domino Godefrido Priori de Stokecurcy nostre diocesis salutem, graciam et benedictionem. Cum Priori dicti prioratus non liceat se ad partes transmarinas transferre nisi de speciali licencia petita pariter et optenta, ac tu ut suggeris propter causas necessarias domus tue ad abbatem tuum in dictis partibus commorantem oporteat te transferre ut usque ad festum Purificationis Beate Marie Virginis proximum sequens te ex causa premissa licite valeas absentare, tibi concedimus per presentes licenciam specialem.

Datum apud Chieu Non. Octobris anno, &c.

462. Radulphus, &c., dilecto in Christo filio Waltero de Remmesbuř, nostre diocesis presbitero, salutem, &c. Ad ministeriatum perpetue Cantarie in ecclesia de Kylue nostre diocesis vacantem, ad quam per dilectum nobis in Christo filium dominum Symonem de Forneaux militem nobis presentatus existis te admittimus et perpetuum Ministrum canonice instituimus in eadem, administrationem omnium bonorum mobilium et immobilium dicte Cantarie auctoritate diocesane tibi committentes iuxta vim et effectum canonice ordinationis in hac parte facte.

In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum presentibus duximus apponendum.

Datum apud Banewell sexto Id. Octobris Anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo xxxij^do. Et consecrationis nostre quarto.

463. v Id., Oct., A.D. above, at Banewell. The lord instituted Thomas de Erlegh, acolyte, to the church of Kyngesalre (Aller), to which he was presented by Sir John de Clyuedene, knight.

464. Rauf par la souffraunce de Dieu Euesque de Baa et de Welles, a touz noz tenauntz franks et autres de noz manoirs de Banewelle, Iattone, Congresbuř, Ceddre, Axebrugge et Blakeford, saluzen Dieu. Purceqe nous auons fait Johan de Leftwych Baillife et gardeyn de noz manoirs avauntditz a surveer et Fol. 68b,

garder les oueraignes qils soient lealment faites et tentes autres choses appendantz au ditz manoirs. Vous maundons qe al dit Johan come a notre Baillife tant qil nous plerra soiez entendauntz et respoignauntz. En temoignaunce de queu chose, nous avons fait faire cestes noz letres patentes.

Done a Banewelle, le xxij iour doctobre lan de notre sacre quart.

Et sub eisdem data et forma, fuit facta Commissio Thome Jurdan pro Balliva de Wiuelescombe, Boclond, Lidiard et Welyngton.

465. Robert, perpetual vicar of the church of Ceddre, to Bishop Ralph.

Mandatum paternitatis vestre recepi quarto Non. Augusti sub tenore qui sequitur.

Radulphus, &c., dilecto in Christo filio Roberto perpetuo vicario ecclesie de Ceddre nostre diocesis salutem, &c. Licet per venerabilem patrem dominum Octobonum quondam apostolice sedis in Anglia legatam, necnon in concilio provinciali per venerabiles patres dominos Symonem, Dei gracia Cantuar' Archiepiscopum totius Anglie primatem ipsiusque suffraganeos celebrato, fuisset ordinatum et proinde promulgatum quod omnes et singuli qui de domibus, maneriis, grangiis aut aliis locis ad Archiepiscopos, episcopos vel alias personas ecclesiasticos seu ad ipsas ecclesias pertinentibus, quicquam preter voluntatem aut permissionem dominorum vel eorum qui sunt hujusmodi rerum custodiis deputati abstrahere consumere vel contractare presumpserint, &c., tanquam ecclesiastice libertatis et immunitatis violatores majoris excommunicationis sententiam incurrerent ipso facto. Quidam tamen iniquitatis filii, quorum nomina ignorantur, pariter et persone post hujusmodi constitutionem publicationem et ipsarum effectualem artationem de domibus, &c., ad nos et predecessores nostros, Bathonienses et Wellenses episcopos notorie pertinentibus, fructus et alia bona quamplura preter voluntatem et permissionem nostram et custodum deputatorum per nos ibidem abstrahere vel confractare presumpserint, abstrahicione consumi vel confractari fecerint, seu hujusmodi abstractionem, consumptionem, aut confractationem suo nomine vel a familiaribus suis factam ratam habuerint, prout tam per

famam publicam quam per clamorem validum fidedignorum ad nostrum sepius pervenit auditum. Unde non est dubium dictos malefactores, si est ita, majoris excommunicationis sententiam dampnabiliter incurrisse, &c. Vobis committimus et mandamus sub debito obediencie firmiter injungentes, quatinus omnes et singulos prefatos malefactores hujusmodi majoris excommunicationis sententia fuisse et esse ut premittitur involutos in ecclesia de Ceddre predicta diebus dominicis et festivis intra missarum solempnia, cum major affuerit populi multitudo campanis pulsatis, candelis accensis et extinctis cruce in manibus erecta publice et solempniter nuncietis. Inquirentes nihilominus de nominibus hujusmodi malefactorum, &c. Datum apud Blakeford Kalend. Augusti anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo xxxij^do et consecrationis nostre tercio. Cuius auctoritate mandati omnes et singulos prefatos malefactores hujusmodi majoris excommunicationis sententia fuisse ut premittitur involutos in ecclesia de Ceddre predicta singulis diebus dominicis a die receptionis dicti mandati, necnon in festis sancti Laurencii, Assumpcionis Beate Marie et Sancti Byrtholomei proximis preteritis in forma michi demandata publice et solempniter nunciavi. Inquisivi nihilominus de nominibus hujusmodi malefactorum ut mandastis. Per quam quidem inquisicionem inueni Johannem atte Boure, Thomam Gylemyn, Johannem Champyon, Johannem garcionem eorundem Johannis, Johannis atte Boure et Thome Gylemyn in hac parte infamia respersos, quos omnes et singulos personaliter inventos in forma michi demandata citaui, prout idem mandatum in se plenius exigit et requirit.

Datum apud Ceddre viij Kal., Septembris, anno, &c.

465. Memorandum quod xj Kal., Novembris apud Banewell dominus contulit Radulpho de Somerseit̃ sue diocesis primam tonsuram, ad manumissionem Abbatas Glaston' penes Registrum dicti domini episcopi remanentem. Fol. 69.

466. Pateat uniuersis per presentes quod ego Johannes de Ken, dominus de Ken, concedo quod Johannes de Boudone, miles, posset presentare ad ecclesiam de Kyngeston Seymor que vacat per resignationem domini Radulphi de la Morte nuper rectoris eiusdem ecclesie. Presentacione per me domino epis-

copo alias facta non obstante, jureque meo in proxima vacacione ejusdem ecclesie michi et heredibus meis semper salvo, &c.

Datum apud Ken die Veneris proximo post festum sancti Luce Ewangeliste anno regni regis Edwardi tercii sexto.

467. x Kal., Nov., A.D. above, at Banewell. Institution of John de Illebruere, priest, to the vicarage of Kulveton, vacant by the resignation of John de Chernebur̃.

468. iij Kal., Nov., A.D. above, at Banewell. Licence for Richard de Chiderlee, rector of the church of Corscombe, to study for a year in England.

469. Pridie Kalend. Novembris anno Domini supradicta apud Banewell, dominus concessit Fratri Laurencio de Cherleton, ad instanciam fratris Symonis Prioris provincialis fratrum ordinis predicatorum in prouincia Anglie, licenciam exequendi confessoris officium per totam suam diocesim juxta formam Constitutionis que incipit, Sup cathedr̃, per unum annum tantummodo duraturum.

470. Radulphus, &c., dilectis in Christo filiis Priori et Conventui ecclesie nostre cathedralis Bathoniensis salutem, &c. Licet vos deceat ut prelatos, confrates et subditos aliqualiter forsitan delinquentes paterna compassione fovere, ac in modo puniendi facilius ad misericordiam descendere quam ad punitionis excessum, referri tamen audivimus quampluries et a multis, quod vos Fratrem Willielmum de Haukesbury vestrum Commonachum et Confratrem nuper contra regulares observancias et Canonicas disciplinas ita arcte mancipastis custodie carcerali, quod cruciatus sibi impositos et inflictos diu sustinere non potest, quin potius de vita ipsius verisimiliter desperatur. Nos vero qui subditos nostros protegere astringimur et tueri, ut ipsi preuaricacionibus dissuetis, et calumpniantium iaculis non subcumbant, volentes excessum huiusmodi, si quis fuerit in hac parte caritativis amplexibus facere reuocari. Vos rogamus, ac in virtute obediencia injungimus et mandamus, quatinus si est ita prout superius enarratur, dictum fratrem Willielmum, cum majori gracia prosequentes agatis, visis presentibus, micius cum eodem, maxime cum longe sit tucius apud districtum judicem

super misericordia quam super seueritate reddere racionem. Scientes quod rogatu et mandato nostris huiusmodi per vos quod nollemus aliqualiter obauditis, manus nostras ad correctionem premissorum apponere oportebit, justicia suadente.

Datum apud Ban[well] xij Kalend., Nouembris, anno Domini supradicto.

471. Bishop Ralph to Master Thomas de Retford, Chancellor of Wells.

Whereas in the provincial council held at London by S. Archbishop of Canterbury, &c., it was ordained that all and singular maliciously hindering ecclesiastics to whom pertains the taking of tithes, or their servants, should be punished by excommunication, and now we have heard that the parishioners of Doultynge were instigators and hinderers in the cases above-said. We desiring to provide for the safety of the souls of the said parishioners, commit to you our offices to absolve the said parishioners from the chain of excommunication.

Banewell, 4 Nov., A.D. 1332.

472. Same day, place and year, the lord granted special licence for Sir Geoffrey Hautevill, knight, that he may be absolved from excommunication by any fit confessor he chooses.

"Quia dampnabiliter extitit innodatus, eo quod de nemore domini apud Chyu asportauit seu asportari fecit."

473. Same day, &c. Special licence for Robert de Todenham, clerk, to have divine services celebrated in the chapel of his manor or dwelling-house at Lymynton by fit priests.

474. viij Id., Nov., A.D. above at Banewell. Institution of John de Bere, priest, to the vicarage of Stokecurcy, to which he was presented by the prior and monks of Stokecurcy.

475. Radulphus, &c., dilecto in Christo filio, Willelmo Conde, rectori ecclesie de Lymplesham, nostre diocesis, salutem &c. Supplicacionibus tuis favorabiliter annuentes, ut ad faciendum

cancellum ecclesie sue predicta prout conuenit dedicari citra videlicet festum Purificationis Beate Virginis proximo futurum prout proclamaciones super hoc fieri fecimus non est diu per nos aut ministros nostros quoscumque nullatenus astringere, tibi tenore presentium licenciam concedemus specialem ; dumtamen idem cancellum citra biennium a die confectionis presentium continue numerandum legitime dedicetur.

Datum apud Banewell viij Id., Novembris, anno Domini supradicto.

476. To all who shall see or hear the present letters John de Ken, lord of Ken, greeting in the Lord. Because John de Boudon, knight, has the right to present this turn to the church of Kyngeston Seymor, which is now vacant by the resignation of Sir Ralph de la More, the late rector there, I will and grant that the said John may present to the said church and his presentee, may be admitted to the same. Notwithstanding the presentation heretofore by me made to the lord bishop of Bath, or the royal prohibition delivered to him by anyone. Saving to me and my heirs my right of presenting on the next vacancy, &c.

Dated at Jatton, Friday next before the feast of the apostles Simon and Jude, 6 Edw. iii.

Fol. 70. 477. iv. Id., Nov. Institution of John de Wyma, priest, to the vicarage of the church of Compton Episcopi, at the presentation of Master Gilbert de Bruera, canon and prebendary of the same, in the church of Wells.

478. Commission by Bishop Ralph for Masters Thomas de Retford, canon of Wells, and Walter de Hulle, rector of the church of Shepton Belli Campi, to collect the fruits, rents and issues of the fourth year according to the extension in the letter of the Papal Nuncio on the fourth folio preceding, at such sign ✠ Ban[well], iv Id., Nov., A.D.

479. Bishop Ralph to Master John Martel, his official. Cum nuper mandata apostolica certi tenoris receperimus exequenda, aliaque varia negotia pro animarum salute, utilitate ecclesie, ac morum reformatione nostro ad presens incumbant officio pastorali,

ad que notificanda et exequenda ac pro tractatibus super hiis ulterius optinendis Clerum nostre diocesis conjunctim vel divisim oportet personaliter congregari. . . . Quo circa vobis mandavimus firmiter injungentes, quatinus omnes Rectores et Vicarios infra Decanatum de C. quomodolibet constitutos, etiam si ab Archidiaconi jurisdictione forsitan sint exempti peremptorie citetis seu citari faciatis quod compareant coram nobis aut nostro Commissario in ecclesia parochiali de C. die Martis, &c. mandata huiusmodi apostolica prout requiritur auditura ac super hiis et aliis negociis ut prefertur, personaliter tractatura, &c.

Datum apud Banewell quinto Id. Nouembris, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo xxxij^do et nostre consecrationis quarto.

Et sub eadem forma scribebatur omnibus Decanis Ruralibus in Archidiaconatu Wellensi et Tantonensi.

480. Bishop Ralph to Masters John Martel, his official, and John de London, canons of Wells.

Cum priores altarium beate Marie sancti Martini in ecclesia nostra Wellensi, nobis singulis annis de redditibus, obuencionibus, et omnibus prouentibus ad eos ratione dictorum altarium pertinentibus et per eosdem receptis teneantur reddere racionem. Vobis mandamus firmiter injungentes quatinus cum dicti priores de toto tempore nostro et longo tempore predecessorum transacto nullum compotum reddiderint, eisdem coram vobis ad certos diem et locum vocatis et juratis, ac per omnia fideliter oneratis de uniuersis receptis suis et proventibus supradictis audiatis et recipiatis fidelem compotum ab eisdem, &c.

Datum apud Banewell Id., Nouembris, anno, &c.

481. Certificate of Robert, perpetual vicar of Cheddre, to Bishop Ralph, that he had made an inquisition touching the malefactors who robbed the bishop's manors of Axebrugge and Cheddre, and found that Matthew Pecches and Robert Boxe were guilty by report, and John Champyon, John Knyght, Simon le Forester are found guilty of the fact. Fol. 70b

Cheddre, Id., Nov., A.D. above.

482. Radulphus, &c., dilecto in Christo filio perpetuo vicario Fol. 71.

de Wynescomb nostre diocesis salutem, &c. Cum nos, legitime procedentes, Johannem Le Knyght, Johannem Le Chaumpyon, et Clementem Le Forester ad respondendum nobis ex officio super eo quod jura libertates, possessiones et consuetudines nostras et ecclesiarum nostrarum retroactis pacifice temporibus usitatas in maneriis nostris de Axebrugge et Cheddre maliciose perturbare, inuadere, violare et distringere non formidant, legitime citatos, et nullo modo comparentes, pronunciauerimus contumaces ipsosque pro sua huiusmodi contumacia excommunicavimus, justicia requirente; tibi in virtute obediencie firmiter injungendo committimus et mandamus quatinus dictos Johannem, Johannem et Clementem sic per nos fuisse et esse excommunicationis sententia dampnabiliter involutos, pulsatis campanis, candelis accensis et extinctis cruce in manibus erecta, cum omni solumpnitate qua decet in ecclesia parochiali de Wynesc[ombe] diebus dominicis et festivis intra missarum solempnia cum major affuerit populi multitudo publice facias nunciari, a denunciacione hujusmodi non cessando donec aliud a nobis habueris in mandatis et super premissis absolucionis beneficium in forma juris optinere. Inhibeas insuper quibuscumque personis sub pena superius annotata ne cum ipsis sic excommunicatis communicent publice et occulte, casibus a jure permissis dumtaxat exceptis. Cites nihilominus seu citari facias peremptorie dictos Johannem, Johannem, et Clementem, et etiam Matheum Pecche, et Robert atte Boxe, quod compareant coram nobis aut nostro Commissario primo die juridico post festum sancti Andree Apostoli proximum futurum ubicunque in nostro civitate vel diocesi Bathon' et Wellen' tunc fuerimus super violacione pretacta divisim nobis responsuros ac de veritate dicenda, &c.

Datum apud Ban[well] Id. Novembris, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo xxxij^do, et consecrationis nostre quarto. Et sub ista forma scribebatur de Schupham, Roubergh, et Axebrugge Rectoribus, necnon et vicariis de Compton et de Cheddre.

483. Andreas de Schupham et Willelmus de Roubergh ecclesiarum Rectores coram nobis T. de N., Commissario ad infrascripta facienda specialiter deputato personaliter comparentes in aula manerii de Ban[well] xviij Kalend., Decembris, anno

Domini supradicto, fatentur se et utrumque eorum insolidum teneri venerabili patri domino Radulpho Dei gratia Bathon' et Wellen' episcopo ex causa legitima in decem marcis argenti, soluendis eidem domino episcopo citra festum Nativitatis Domini proximum futurum. Unde nos Commissarius antedictus eorum spontaneam confessionem secuti dictos Andreum et Willelmum in decem marcis argenti eidem domino episcopo citra dictum festum Nativitatis Domini persoluendis in his scriptis per precepti sententiam condempnamus sub pena excommunicationis majoris, quam exnunc ut extunc in personas eorum de expresso suo consensu ferimus in hiis scriptis si in solucione defecerint supradicta. Et facta fuit presens condempnacio in presencia magistrorum W. de Banewell et R. de Chigewell Notarii publici.

484. Radulphus, &c., dilectis in Christo filiis, &c [ut supra].

Licet nuper per dilectum nobis in Christo Magistrum Johannem Martel, Officiarium nostrum, interpositum fuisset sequestrum in bonis Wellelmi de Ludelowe vicarii ecclesie prebendalis de Compton Episcopi ab intestato ut asseritur decedentis decretumque emanasset quod vos super detencione et injusta occupacione bonorum hujusmodi ad certos diem et locum citati judicialiter responderetis ex officio sicut decet. Nos tamen facta per vos coram nobis fide qua requiritur in hac parte ac aliis concurrentibus documentis quibus sufficienter existimus informati dictum sequestrum in bonis hujusmodi sic ut premittitur interpositum ex certa scientia relaxamus, vosque ab omni onere et calumpnie occasione administracionis bonorum hujusmodi per nos aut nostros vobis imponendis seu objiciendis quomodolibet infuturum, quantum in nobis est, salvo iure cujuslibet, absolvimus per decretum.

Datum apud Banewelle xviij Kal., Decembris, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ xxxij^do^ et nostra consecrationis quarto.

485. Radulphus, &c., dilecto in Christo filio presbitero parochie de Harpetree nostre diocesis salutem, &c. Literas venerabilis patris domini Johannis Dei gracia Landauensis episcopi recepimus sub hac forma. Fol. 71b

Venerabili in Christo patri, domino R. Dei gratia Bathon' et

Wellen' episcopo, frater Johannes ejusdem permissione episcopus Landauensis salutem et sincere dilectionis continuum incrementum. Licet auctoritate sacrarum constitutionum omnes et singuli qui de domibus, maneriis, grangiis aut aliis locis ad personas ecclesiasticas, seu ad ipsas ecclesias quomodolibet pertinentibus quicquam contra seu preter voluntatem dominorum aut eorum qui sunt rerum hujusmodi costodes deputati abstrahere, consumere aut contractare presumpserint seu hujusmodi abstractionem consumpcionem ac contractationem nomine suo vel a familiaribus suis factam ratam habuerint cum omnibus suis complicibus et participibus consilium vel auxilium in hiis presentibus aut favorem, tamquam ecclesiastica libertatis et ecclesie immunitatis violatores sint, sententia majoris excommunicationis ipso facto innodati: extitit tamen nobis ac aliis per evidenciam, &c., quod dominus Thomas Gurney, miles, ac Philippus Houwel quos dicte constitutiones veresimiliter non latebant bona ad nos et ad ecclesiam nostrum Landauensem notorie pertinentia de terra nostra et ecclesie nostra apud Sanctum Kenmartun nostre diocesis, cum nimio terrore virorum armatorum violencia consilium, auxilium et fauorem tanto facinori prestancium ac violencia non modica, preter immo et contra voluntatem nostram et custodis nostri cujuscumque ausu temerario et sacrilego asportarunt, consumpserunt, contractarunt, &c. Propter que et quodlibet eorum dictos dominum Thomam et Philippum ordine juris qui in hac parte requirebatur observato in dictam sententiam excommunicationis majoris contra hujusmodi malefactores latem pronunciavimus incidisse, &c. Quocirca paternitatem vestram mutue vicissitudinis opidatu requirimus pariter et rogamus, quatinus dictos Thomam et Philippum in villa de Harpetre vestre diocesis ut dicitur commorantes, sic excommunicatos, ac duplici de causa per nos pro excommunicatis denunciatos publice in ecclesia parochiali' predicta denuncietis seu denunciari faciatis, quociens discrecioni vestri videbitur expedire. Ad tutum ecclesie sue regimen et munimen, feliciter conseruet vos clemencia redemptoris.

Datum apud Lank' quinto Non., Octobris, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ xxxij^do^.

Ad faciendum igitur denunciacionem sententie in prescriptis literis comprehense per duos videlicet dies in ecclesia de

Harpetre supradicta, secundum modum et formam in eisdem literis designatis, tibi tenore presentium committimus vices nostras.

Datum apud Banewelle.

486. Omnibus Christi fidelibus presentes literas inspecturis, Thomas permissione diuina Prior ecclesie cathedralis Bathoniensis et ejusdem loci Conventus, salutem eternam in Domino. Noueritis nos unanimi assensu et voluntate concessisse fratri Roberto de Sutton monacho domus nostre Prioratum de Dunsterre pro libito nostro et suo gubernandum. Concessimus etiam ei in augmentacionem status et honoris sui quolibet anno viginti libras sterlingorum percipiendas. Videlicet, centum solidos annuatim ad festa sancti Michaelis et Pasche de ecclesia de Bruggewalteri de annua pensione ecclesie nostre predicte debitos ab eadem. Et quinquaginta quinque solidos de Shreueton. Et septem sex (*sic*) solidos et octo denarios de porcione camerarii et pitanciarii nostri Bathon' apud Karynton. Et octodecim solidos quatuor denarios de porcione Camerarii nostri de ecclesia nostra de Banton in festo Annunciacionis beate Marie, et quatuor libras de scaccario nostro apud Bathon' in festo Pasche. Concessimus eciam eidem quod possit habere secum socios sibi complacentes quos poterit procurare. Et si aliquis sociorum apud Dunsterre mittatur qui sibi placere non poterit, aut inquietus fuerit, volumus quod cum idem frater Robertus hoc domino Priori literatorie denunciauerit, sta[t]im in fine termini proximi sequentis domum revocetur, et alius magis quietus et maturus loco sui subrogetur. Concessimus etiam quod si idem Robertus invalitudine corporis vel senio preventus, aut alia causa racionabili ibidem stare non poterit, apud Bathon' sine contradictione qualicunque revertatur, plenam liberacionem percepturus, quam a predecessore nostro et a nobis optinuit, una cum camera quam construxerat, et viginti libris a nobis sibi concessis, ad terminum vite sue integre percipiendis.

In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune presentibus est appensum.

Datum Bathon', in domo nostra capitulari, xxliij$^{to}$ die mensis Octobris, anno Domini millesimo ccc$^{mo}$ xxxij$^{do}$.

Fol. 72. 487. Bishop Ralph to John Martel, his official.

Licet clerici qui ad beneficia ecclesiastica curam animarum habentia sunt promoti, in ipsis teneantur beneficiis residere, nisi per ipsorum ordinarios fuerit cum eis ad tempus ex causa racionabili super ipsam residenciam dispensatum. Nonnulli tamen in nostra diocese hujusmodi beneficia optinentes, ab ipsis beneficiis se absentant licencia non optenta. Alii vero sue licencie terminos excedentes, redire non curant licenciam post finitam. Alii eciam *eciam* suis dispensacionibus dampnabiliter abutentes, civitates, vicos, curias, et plateas insolenter verberando discurrunt, ac loca alta non verentur nonnumque subintrare suspecta. Quidam insuper cum quibus ex causa studiorum fuerat per nos aliquociens dispensatum, in fructus adquisicione quem in ecclesia Dei afferre deberent suis temporibus oportunum, minime profuerunt. Ex quorum absencia, periit hospitalitas, animarum cura negligitur, cultus divinus in ipsis pejoratur ecclesiis, corruunt edificia, que suorum extruxerat magnificencia predecessorum: et datur materia ut de aliis taceamus multipliciter evagandi. Nos igitur malis huiusmodi obviare, ac agnos ab edis quatenus possumus segregare volentes, ne sanguis subditorum nostrorum de nostris manibus requiratur, et culpe eorum fore participes nullatenus dinoscamur, quorum excessuum correctio per nos extat negligenter omissa, presertim cum non careat scrupulo societatis occulte, qui manifesto facinori definit obviare quin inimo qui peccanti parcit vel obsequitur, bis peccare censetur. Vobis in virtute obediencie firmiter injungendo committimus et mandamus, quatinus in Consistoriis, Capitulis, et aliis Cleri congregationibus, necnon in locis singulis nostrarum civitatum et diocesis quibus videbitur expedire, omnes Rectores et alios curam habentes publico citacionis edicto moneri in genere faciatis, ad specialem monicionem si necesse fuerit procedentes, ut ad beneficia sua huiusmodi citra festum nativitatis Domini proximum futurum sub pena juris redeant, &c. Mandantes ut de processibus coram vobis habitis in hac parte cum tenore presentium, et nominibus non residentium prescriptorum nos oportuno tempore studeates reddere certiores.

Datum apud Banewell, xiiij Kal., Decembris, anno Domini supradicto.

488. xiij Kal., Dec., in the year abovesaid, at Banwell. Licence for Hugh, Rector of Pundyngton, priest, that from this day until the feast of All Saints' next he may pursue his studies.

489. xi Kal., Dec., year aforesaid, at Banwell. Dominus concessit domine Willelmo de Mulburne, militi, quod ab die usque festum sancti Michaelis proximum futurum in capella manerii sui de Wydecombe infra limites parochia de Corston coram se, uxore, et libera sua familia diuina licite valeat facere celebrari. Ita tamen quod matrici ecclesie, &c.

490. viij Kal., Dec. A.D., 1332, at Banewell.

Matheus Peche, Robertus atte Boxe, Johannes Le Knyght, Johannes Le Champyon, Clemens Le Forester, qui citati fuerant coram domino super sibi obiciendis ex officio responsuri prout in principio primi folii istius quaturni plenius continetur, coram domino in camera sua personaliter comperentes, tactis sacrosanctis Euangeliis corporale prestiterant sacramentum de parendo juri ac mandatis ecclesie, &c. Set quia dominus non habuit consilium suum ibidem, ac ad instanciam domini I. de Clyuedon, militis, iunioris, et aliorem venientium pro eisdem assignauit eis terminos infrascriptos, videlicet, prefato Matheo diem Mercurii in crastino Purificationis beate Virginis proximum futurum ac proximum diem juridicum post festum sancti Andree Apostoli proximum futurum prefatis Roberto Johanni, Johanni et Clementi, ad audiendum ordinacionem domini, &c. Et quia prefati Johannes, Johannes et Clemens pro manifesta contumacia alias coram domino contracta excommunicationis vinculo fuerant innodati, ipsis per dominum in forma juris primitis absolutis, statim misit literas suas de Axebrugge, de Schupham, et de Roubergh ecclesiarum Rectoribus, ac de Cheddre, de Wynecombe et de Compton Episcopi ecclesiarum vicariis, ad denunciandum ipsos esse legitime absolutos, sub verborum serie subsequente. Fol. 72b.

Radulphus permissione diuina, &c. Quia nos Johannem Le Knyght, Johannem Le Champyoun, et Clementem Le Forester, a sententia excommunicationis qua auctoritate nostra legitime fuerant innodati requirente justicia duximus absoluen-

dos. Tibi mandamus quatinus eosdem Johannem, Johannem et Clementem sic per nos fuisse et esse denuncies absolutos, &c.

Datum apud Banewell, viij Kalend., Decembris, anno Domino millesimo ccc^mo tricesimo secundo, et nostre consecrationis quarto.

491. Eccellentissimo Principi et suo domino reuerendo, domino Edwardo Dei gracia Regi Anglie illustri, Domino Hibernie, et Duci Aquitannie, suus si placet deuotus et humilis Capellanus R. eiusdem Bathon' et Wellen' ecclesiarum Minister, debitam reverenciam et votiue subiectionis promptitudinem cum honore. Quia nos ex causis necessariis quas dilecti nobis in Christo Magister Henricus de Clif et dominus Thomas de Euesham vestre poterunt celsitudini si libeat intimare, ad presens sumus de quo delemus, diuersimode prepediti, quominus, parliamento vestro die Veneris proximo ante festum sancti Nicholai proximum futurum apud Ebor' assignato juxta vestrum mandatum regium nobis missum poterimus interesse, exellenciam vestram regiam humiliter requirimus et rogamus, quatinus absenciam nostram huiusmodi impedimentis fulcitam legitimis ut prefertur habere dignemini, graciose et fauorabiliter exusatam. Ad comparendum vero pro nobis in Parliamento personaliter antedicto, tractandumque super negociis statum regni vestri et corone vestre regie contigentibus, ac ad consenciendum omnibus et singulis que in eodem Parliamento vestro ex deliberatione provida salubriter contigere ordinari; prefatis Magistro H. et domino T. coniunctim et diuisim specialem tenore presentium tribuimus potestatem.

In cujus, &c. Datum vicesimo quarto die Novembris.

492. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Wells ordering that business and especially that of the fairs shall cease in the church and cemetery of Wells.

Banewelle, vii Kal., Dec., in the said year.

493. v Kal., December, A.D. above, at Banwell. Institution of Nicholas de Bromlegh, clerk, to the church of Kyngeston Seymor, vacant by the free resignation of Sir Richard de la

More, to which he was presented by Sir John de Boudone, knight. Robert le Yrmongare, of Hungerford, his proxy. Fol. 73.

494. iii Kal., Dec., in the year above, at Banewell. The lord granted licence for Richard de Hale, rector of the church of Chieu, to remain in the service of Robert, bishop of Sarum, for a year.

495. Dispensation of Richard de Chipwille, priest, who had obtained the title of deacon *a quodam nobili . . . et sic ad dictum titulum, alias tamen rite ad diaconatus ordinem fuit promotus.*

Banewelle, Kal., Dec., A.D. above.

496. Kal., Dec., A.D. 1332, at Banewelle. The lord granted special licence to Sir Thomas de London, rector of Meriet, that he can absent himself from his church for a year for necessary causes.

497. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Wells to inflict on John Le Chaumpyon, forester, the following punishment for violating the bishop's liberties in the manors of Axebrugge and Cheddre.

In ecclesia nostra cathedrali Wellensi dum missarum solempnia celebrantur more penitenceali, capucio abjecto, nudis pedibus, tunica dumtaxat indutus in loco publico et etiam eminenti ubi populus inibi congregatus ipsum melius discernere poterit et videre stet continue tenens in manu ardentem cereum vel candelam, et eundem, finitis hujusmodi missarum solempniis, ad summum altare offerat tunc ibidem.

Prestetque tactis sacrosanctis corporaliter iuramentum quod nichil in posterum attemptabit nec procurabit, &c.

Banewelle, Kal., Dec., A.D. 1332.

Et sub eadem forma scriptum fuit perpetuo vicario de Cheddre pro Johanne le Knyghte, et rectori ecclesie de Axebrugge pro Clemente Le Forester super premissis convictis.

498. Acts in the parish church of Banewelle on the first judicial day after the feast of St. Andrew, A.D. abovesaid before

Fol. 73b. W. de Burton. I. de Karleton, and Thomas de Neuton the commissioners of the bishop. Whereas it appears to us by a certificate of the rectors of Axebrugge and Schupham, and the vicars of Cheddre, Compton and Wynescombe that Matthew Pecche, Robert atte Boxe, John Knyght, Clement Le Forester, and John Chaumpyon the forester of the lord the King on Menedep, "se pretendentes ad respondendum ex officio super perturbacione, invasione, violacione, et districtione jurium, libertatum, possessionum et consuetudinum dicti domini episcopi et ecclesiarum suarum Bathonienium et Wellensium. . . . . in maneriis de Axebrugge et Cheddre, eo precipue quod cariagia dicti domini episcopi cum buscha pro focalibus et aliis suis necessariis de nemore suo apud Budelcombe ausu temerario arestabant distringendo famulos pro ipsis cariagiis deputatos et ipsorum vadia capiendo, ad hos diem et locum legitime fore citatos."

John Le Chaumpyon is to be punished as in the preceding document.

"Eodem etiam die dictus Johannes Le Knyght in ecclesia parochiali de Cheddre et prefatus Clemens in ecclesia parochiali de Axebrugge stantes ad fontes in omnibus penitebunt, et per omnia de ipsis fiet, sicut de dicto Johanne Chaumpyon superius est expressum."

The said Matthew has the first judicial day after the feast of the Purification of the Blessed Mary next to come before the bishop, "ad faciendum quod nunc foret facturus, propter varia et ardua negocia domini nostri regis quibus est ad presens ut asserit implicata. Iurauit eciam ex habundanti idem Matheus, quod quoad premissa stabit voluntati et ordinationi domini episcopi."

Fol. 74. 499. Ralph, &c., to Masters Thomas de Retford, chancellor of Wells, and Walter de Hulle, rector of the church of Schepton Belli Campi, his commissaries appointed to collect the first fruits and issues of the first year of all vacant benefices. We have received the letters of Icherius de Concoreto, canon of Sarum, in these words. "Infra instans festum Purificationis Beate Marie quod. . . . compareatis coram nobis in Hospicio quo habitamus Londonio, plenius informati reddituri de leuatis

receptis, per vos seu dictos Commissarios plenariam de dictis fructibus, redditibus et proventibus racionem." Dated London, xviij Nov., A.D. 1332.

By authority of which letters we appoint you our commissaries and order you to appear before the lord Icherius abovesaid to render a full account.

Banewell, Non., Dec., A.D. abovesaid.

500. Ralph, &c., to Master John Martel, his official. We have received the letter of the lord Icherius de Concoreto in these words :—

"Denarios Beati Petri per vos eisdem domino nostro pape et ecclesie Romane debitos a tempore quo est cessatum in solucione ipsorum nobis Londonie in hospitio quo habitamus infra instans festum Purificationis Beate Marie sine dilatione aliqua persoluatis." London, xiij Nov., A.D. 1332.

By authority of which letters we order you that you study to collect the said pence throughout our whole city and diocese on this side of the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord next to come.

Banwell, iij Non., Dec., A.D. abovesaid.

501. The same day and place. Institution of Baldwin Allemer, priest, to the church of Holeford, to which he was presented by the prior and monks of Stokecurcy. Fol. 74b.

502. Day before Nones of Dec., A.D., abovesaid, at Banwell. The lord granted letters dimissory for Nicholas de Bromlegh, rector of the church of Kyngeston Seymor, clerk, to all minor orders.

503. Id., Dec., at Banewelle. Dominus dispensauit cum Ricardo Maundeville, scolari, sue diocesis juxta formam et effectum literarum apostolicarum super defectu natalium quem de soluto patitur genitus et soluta, quod videlicet eo non obstante possit ad omnes ordines promoveri et beneficium ecclesiasticum optinere, etiam si curam habeat animarum, &c.

504. Radulphus, &c., dilectis in Christo filiis Abbati et Conuentui de Mucheln nostra diocesis salutem, &c. Ut unum

corrodium sive liberacionem Willelmo Le Iressch domicello possitis concedere ad terminum vite sue. Vosque ad hoc effectualiter obligare, dum tamen in prejudicium Monasterii vestri, ac elemosine, hospitalitatis et aliorum operum pietatis diminucionem hoc non tendere dinoscatur, vobis tenore presentium tribuimus facultatem.

Datum apud Banwell quarto Id., Decembris, anno, &c.

505. We, Ralph, &c., have received on the day of making these presents, by the hands of William, rector of Roubergh, and Andrew, rector of Schupkam, in the name of William de Ludelowe, vicar of Compton Episcopi, lately deceased 10 marks in which the said vicar was bound to us.

Banwell, iv Id., Dec., in the year, &c.

506. Robert, vicar of Cheddre, to Bishop Ralph.

I have received your mandate, dated at Banewell, Kal., Dec., A.D. 1332, by authority of which John Le Knyght went through his punishment. "Set dictum cereum in manu ardentem continue tenere ut sibi injungitur, et stare ubi populus ipsum discernere melius poterit et videre, non curavit."

Cheddre, vij Id., Dec., A.D., abovesaid.

Fol. 75. 507. Et sub eadem forma scribebatur decano ecclesie nostre Wellensis pro Johanne Le Chaumpyon et rectori ecclesie de Axebrugge pro Clemente Le Forester qui duo hujusmodi punitiam in omnibus benigne et humiliter peregerunt prout per eorundem decani et rectoris certificatoria nobis patuit evidenter.

508. Ralph, &c., to the abbot of Glaston, subcollector of the quadrennial tenth in the city and archdeaconry of Wells.

We have received the letters of Symon, archbishop of Canterbury, 24 Nov., in these words:—Symon, by divine permission, Archbishop of Canterbury, &c., to our venerable brother Ralph, by the grace of God, bishop of Bath and Wells, greeting, &c. We have received the letters of the lord Icherius de Concoreto, the Nuncio, vii Id., Nov., A.D. 1332, containing the tenour which follows.

By the apostolic authority which we hold in this behalf we canonically require and admonish you and each of you with the reverence which is becoming, under the obedience by which we are bound to our said lord, the pope, and to the Roman church, and on our part we ask you, the lord archbishop, and you the lords bishops of London, Winchester, Chichester, and Rochester, that within three, and Sarum, Bath and Wells, Ely, Norwich, Worcester within four, and also Lincoln, Hereford, Coventry, and Lichfield, Exeter, Bangor, St. Davids, St. Asaph and Llandaff, that within five weeks you take care to cite all your commissaries or sub-collectors of the said tenth that they appear in the house in which we live at London to render account.

London, 26 Oct., A.D. 1332.

Which said letters we (the archbishop) intimate to you by the tenour of these presents. Magherfeld, vi Id., Nov., A.D. abovesaid. By authority of which letters we (Bishop Ralph) order that within the fourth week from the day of St. Martin last past you appear before the said lord Icherius to satisfy, &c., as the tenour of the said letters demands and requires.

Banewelle, vii Kal., Dec., A.D. abovesaid.

509. Citatio facta per Justiciarium Foreste.

Matthew Pecche, keeper of the forest in the county of Somerset, to the forester of the forest of Menedep, greeting. I have received the mandate of Sir Robert de Ufforde, keeper of the forest of the lord the King on this side Trent, in these words.

Robertus de Ufforde, &c., Matheo Pecche, custodi Foreste in Comitatu Somerset vel ejus locum tenenti in eadem, salutem. Ex parte domini regis vobis mando quod venire faciatis coram nobis seu locum nostrum tenente apud Axebrugge die Lune in crastino sancte Lucie Virginis proximo futuro omnes Forestarios, viridarios, regardatores, agistatores et omnes alios ministros foreste de Menedep in comitatu predicto cum rotulis, brevibus, talliis et omnibus aliis accidentibus in eadem emersis post ultimas inquisiciones factes in foresta predicta. Venire etiam faciatis corum nobis seu locum nostrum tenente ad eundem diem omnes libere tenentes qui habent terras aut tenementa infra forestam predictam et de qualibet villata infra forestam

predictam quatuor homines et prepositum ad audienda et perficienda ea que ex parte domini regis eis injungemus. Premunire etiam faciatis omnes indictatos de transgressione venationis aut viridis, seu de aliis transgressionibus per ipsos factis in foresta predicta, qui fuerunt attachiati et deliberati per manucapcionem seu per plevinam usque ad proximum adventum Custis (*sic*) Foreste domini regis citra Trentam quod tunc sint ibidem coram nobis seu locum nostrum tenente ad standum inde recto secundum assisam foreste. Et hoc non omittatis. Et habeatis tunc coram nobis seu locum nostrum tenente ibidem omnia nomina predictorum inbreuiata, et hoc breve.

Datum apud Nouam Sarum, xxiij die Nouembris anno regni regis Edwardi a conquestu sexto.

Wherefore I order you that you fully execute that mandate in all things.

Neuton Forester, Wednesday next before the feast of St. Nicholas in the year above.

Et parney l'ostel pur les Justiceries a Cheddre, a la Court L'euesque et L'ostel le Viker.

Fol. 76. 510. Bishop Ralph to the chaplain of the parish of Compton Episcopi.

Cum nos legitime procedentes contra Johannem Schirburne, Johannem filium Johannis atte Elme, defuncti, et Christianum uxorem dicti Johannis, defuncti, super certis transgressionibus et excessibus in contemptu ecclesie perpetratis coram nobis judicialiter convictos, eisdem justicia suadente inuingerimus pro punitia salutari quod circa ecclesiam de Compton predicta fustigarentur et quilibet eorum fustigaretur per tres dies dominicos seu festivos hora debita et more penitentiali incedenda. Tibi mandamus, &c., quatinus predictos Johannem, Johannem et Christianam ad punitiam supradictam ut premittitur peragendam, per censuras ecclesiasticas compellas indilate. Ad hec cites seu citari facias Aliciam Cocke, Stephanum Polsaghe et Johannem Pynchon quod compareant coram nobis vel nostro Commissario proximo die juridico post instans festum sancte Andree Apostoli in ecclesia parochiali de Banewell super certis articulis et interrogatoriis correctionem animarum suarum concernentibus eisdem ex officio nostro objiciendis responsuros;

necnon super eisdem si necesse fuerit personaliter juraturos ulteriusque facturos et recepturos quod justicia suadebit. Quid vero in premissis feceris, nos vel nostrum Commissarium dictis die et loco distincte et aperte certifices, literis tuis patentibus habentibus hunc tenorem.

Datum apud Banewelle v Kal., Decembris, anno, &c.

511. xiij Kal., Jan., A.D. abovesaid, at Banewelle. Institution of St. John de Nony, priest, to the church of Nony, to which he was presented by John de Monte Forti.

512. Dispensatio super ficto titulo.

Bishop Ralph to Adam Lauuerans, of Clyue, priest. We have received the letters of Gaucelin, bishop of Albany, in these words.

Venerabili in Christo patri Dei gratia Episcopo Bathonensi et Wellensi vel ejus vicario in spiritualibus, Gaucelinus miseratione diuina Episcopus Albaniensis salutem, &c. Sua nobis Adam Lauuerans de Clyue, presbiter vestre diocesis, lator presentium, petitione monstrauit, quod cum ipse olim vellet ad sacros ordines promoueri et sufficientem titulum non haberet, a quodam domino quendam fictum titulum optinuit sub pacto quod ipsum dominum inposterum non inpeteret, nec super dicto titulo molestaret eumdem. Et sic ad dictum titulum fuit, alias tamen rite, ad omnes ordines ordinatus. . . . Cognita tandem culpa per alterius sibi prudentiam reuelata, sedem apostolicam adiens provideri sibi super hiis per sedem ipsam humiliter supplicauit, &c. Datum Avinion iij Id. Octobris pontificatus domini Johannis pape xxij$^{di}$ anno xvij$^{o}$.

We dispens[ate] you according to the force, form and effect of the same letters.

Banewell, xiij Kal., Jan., in the year aforesaid.

513. 18 Dec., at Banwell.

Dominus dispensauit cum Nicholao Amoret, clerico, sue diocesis, de soluto genito et soluta juxta formam literarum apostolicarum.

514. Bishop Ralph to Adam, bishop of Worcester. We have Fol. 76b.

received your letters asking us to cite Sir John de Merschton, priest in the hospital of St. Bartholomew, Bristol, living in the parish church of Radecliue, near Bristol, who had taken the habit of religion as a brother of the same hospital, and had openly worn it for no short time "Idem tamen Johannes manu ad aratrum missa retro respiciens temere habitum religionis sue dimisit, crimen apostacie, et majoris exommunicationis sententiam damnabiliter incurrendo," and we have cited the said Sir John Merschtone to appear before you.

515. William de Bartone, reader of the church of Kelueston, official of the archdeacon of Bath, to Bishop Ralph.

I have received your mandate (thus)—

Cum in causa seu causis appellationis seu appellationum et negotii principalis super Archidiaconatu Wellensis ecclesie et dependentibus ab eodem inter Magistrum Robertum de Wamberge archidiaconum Archidiaconatus predicti actorem ex parte una et dominum Symonem de Monte Acuto reum ex altera in Romana curia dudum motis : idem Magister Robertus super cause seu causarum et negotii huiusmodi decisione finali, ac pro executione in interrogatoriis et diffinitiva sententiis ulterius facienda per reuerendum in Christo patrem dominum Armandum Dei gratia Archiepiscopum Aquensem executorem in premissis una cum ceteris collegis suis cum illa clausula quod si non omnes, duo aut unus, &c., per sedem apostolicam deputatum per sua certi tenoris mandata literas et processus nobis, vobis, ac aliis quampluribus subexecutoribus conjunctim et divisim nuper optinuerit demandari. Nos volentes quantum in nobis est mandatis hujusmodi parere in omnibus ut tenemur, vobis conjunctim et divisim . . . . mandamus, quatinus in ecclesia nostra Cathedrali Bathonensi et in omnibus et singulis monasteriis, prioratibus, ecclesiis collegiatis, parochialibus et aliis ecclesiis quibuscunque tam exemptis quam non exemptis, &c., mandata, literas et processus hujusmodi quorum copias vobis sub sigillo nostro transmittimus fideliter exemplatas singulis diebus dominicis et festivis juxta formam in eisdem mandatis, literis et processibus publicantes, &c. Datum apud Banwell xij Kalend., Januarii, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo xxxij^do et nostre consecrationis quarto.

Which said mandates &c., I will execute (against Simon de Monte Acuto).

Dated at Kelueston, vi Kal., Jan., A.D., abovesaid.

And under the form it was written to the dean, precentor, chancellor, treasurer, and subdean of Wells; to which said mandate it was certified as follows. Fol. 77.

The dean, &c.. of Wells to Bishop Ralph.

Cum reuerendus et discretus vir Magister Gundisalvus (Gonsalvo) boni hominis electus Calaritanesis tunc archidiaconus Benastensis in ecclesia Ilerdensi domini nostri pape capellanus et auditor causarum palacii sui in causa appellationis et negotii principalis que inter discretum virum Magistrum Robertum de Wamberge, archidiaconum Wellensem, actorem ex una parte et dominum Symonem de Monte Acuto reum ex altera super archidiaconatu Wellensi, et ejus occasione coram eodem auditore auctoritate apostolica sibi in ea parte commissa in curia Romana vertebatur pro dicto Magistro Roberto et contra dominum Symonem sententiam tulisset diffinitivam, ac eumdem Symonem in cccl florenis auri nomine expensarum in hujusmodi causa factarum et per eumdem auditorem taxatarum procuratoris ipsius Roberti super hoc juramento secuto condempnasset ac etiam eumdem Symonem occasione litis et cause hujusmodi ipsa causa coram eodem auditore indecisa pendente post et contra inhibitionem auctoritate apostolica in hac parte factam et sibi notificatam quedam eidem Magistro Roberto prejudicialia temere attemptasse et fieri procurasse ac rata habuisse nomine ipsius Symonis facta interloquendo pronuntiasset, decreuisset, et declarasset, ac huiusmodi attemptata revocasset, dictumque Symonem in cc. et xx. libris sterlingorum nomine dampnorum et interesse occasione attemptatorum huiusmodi; ac in octoginta florenis uno minus nomine expensarum pro parte dicti Roberti in ea parte factarum et per prefatum auditorem taxatarum, ac per partem dicti Magistri Roberti juratarum condempnasset. Et subsequenter dominus Armandus Dei gratia Archiepiscopus Aquensis executor una cum quibusdam aliis collegis suis a sede apostolica specialiter deputatus varios processus, monitiones, inhibitiones, decreta et mandata suspensionis et excommunicationis ac interdicti sententias inter cetera continentes fecisset in hac parte, vobis et nobis ac pluribus aliis per eumdem exe-

cutorem subexecutoribus deputatis. Vestre reuerende paternitati intimamus et tenore presentium certificamus quod nos per literas vestras decimo Kal., Januarii proximo preterito apud Welliam nobis presentatas, ac per literas executoris predicti per nos primitus receptas excitati, sententiam diffinitivam, pronunciationem, et reuocationem, ac condempnationes, de quibus supra fit mencio, &c., ac mandata, instrumenta et processus, quos, quas, et que in hac parte recepimus, ac etiam omnia et singula in eis contenta dicto domino Symone quamquam a tempore notitie premissorum per nos diligenter quesitus fuisset personaliter, non invento, quatenus de iure artati fuimus, die Natiuitatis Domini proximo preterito in ecclesia vestra Wellensi predicta ac aliis diebus, &c., publicari et in lingua Anglicana vulgariter exponi ulteriusque juxta vim, seriem et effectum eorundem ea fecimus quatenus potuimus et infuturum quatenus de jure artati fuerimus, faciemus debite executioni demandari . . . .

Wells, vi Kal., Jan., A.D. abovesaid.

And under that tenour as in the preceding certificate except this clause. "Publicationem autem hujusmodi et cetera superius recitata hac instanti die Nativitatis, &c." It was written to the abbot of Glaston, the archdeacon of Taunton, Master William de Columbrigge, rector of the church of Wutton, the official of the said archdeacon, and to the deans of Frome, Cari, Merschton, Iuelcestre, Axebrugge and Poulet.

Certificate of the prior and subprior of Bath upon the same mandate.

"Intra missarum solempnia in lingua materna solempniter publicavimus et reverentes sumus executi."

In our chapter house at Bath on the morrow of the Nativity of the Lord, A.D. 1332.

Fol. 77b. 516. Litera directa domino Regi ad excusandum dominum quo ad executionem dictorum mandatorum.

A tresexcellent Prince et son seignur lige si lui plest sire Edward par la grace de Dieu noble Roi Dengleterre, Seignur D'irlande, et Ducs D'aquitaine, le seon humble et deuout Chapelain Raufe par la mesme suffraunce de Dieu Euesque de Baa et de Welles obeissaunce due oue quancqil siet et pust de

seruice de reuerence et d'oneur. Treshonourable seignur come nadgaires depar nostre tresseint Piere le Pape nous soit commaundez de faire certeines executions pur Mestre Robert de Wamberge qe soi dit estre Ercediacne de Welles et me soit enioynt sur peine d'escumeignement done depar nostre dit seint Piere, qe pur nulle prohibicion, capcion, nattachement ne pur contrair maundement ne soie lent ne negligent a faire due execucion sur les commaundementz le Pape, et dautrepart moi soit commaundez par vostre prohibicion issant de vostre Chauncellerie, qe pur prouocacions, appellacions, inhibicions, sentences, ne proces faites par nulli, rien ne faee qe puisse turnir en preiudice de vostre excellence, nen desheritance de droitz de vostre corone, tanqe vostre hautesse soit sur ceo conseille. A vostre benigne seignurie ieo prie sie humblement et si deuoutement come ieo vous ose requerit, qe quant a les execucions et les commaundemenz auantditz me vueillez auer et tenir fauorablement excusez, car ieo espoir tant de la boneuueillaunce de vostre seignurie qe vous ne vouldriez pas qe ieo fuisse escumengez, ne mis en peril de corps ne dalme, par la ou vostre hautesse me purroit meintenir de les commaundementz qe me sont faites depar nostre seint Piere le Pape, les queux me destreinent par cohercion de seinte eglise a faire les execucions auantdites, ieo enuoie a vostre excellence par mon Clerc, le portur de cestes, la verraie copie de les commaundementz et proces auantditz, issi qe ma entencion nest pas de faire chose preiudiciale a vostre estat ne as droitz de vostre hautesse, meais qe vous soiez sur les commaundementz auantditz auisez, et pleinement conseillez selonc la fourme de vostre prohibicion auantdite. Nostre Seignur le tut puissaunt vous vueilla meintenir et sauuer lungement en bounte encressantz voz honurs. Escript a Banwell pres de Welles, le xxiiij$^{te}$ iour de Decembre.

517. Forma publicacionis dictorum mandatorum per dominum faciende.

Nos Radulphus, &c., Magistrum Robertum (de Wamberge) verum Archidiaconum Wellensem nominamus, et ipsum quantum in nobis est ad Archidiaconatum admittimus antedictum, prout et quatenus virtute mandatorum apostolicorum et processuum super hiis habitorum artamur, astringimur et tenemur, &c.

518. iv. Non., Jan., A.D. abovesaid, at Banewelle.
Institution of Alan de Kirkebi to the vicarage of the parish church of Illebruere, at the presentation of the master of the Hospital of Bruggewauter and the brethren of the same place.

519. iij Non., Jan., year and place abovesaid. The lord granted to William Rosemound, rector of the church of Greyngton, that he may pursue the study of letters for a year in England.

Fol. 78. 520. Grant by Bishop Ralph to Robert de Hungerford, of 40*li.* by the year as long as he shall be his steward, "una cum medietate panni coloris pro roba sua et etiam cum feno, busca et litera in maneriis nostris cum in nostris ibidem fuerit obsequiis." Also reasonable expenses,
Chyw, 3 Oct., 6 Edw. iii.

521. Bishop Ralph to Master William de Bartone, rector of the church of Kelueston.
Our clergy, both regular and secular, granted us a tenth in relief of our indigence and we commit to you the collecting of the said tenth in the archdeaconry of Bath. Chyuton on Mendep, 6 Jan., in the year aforesaid.

522. Acta in ecclesia parochiali de Prischtum die Jouis proximo post festum Epiphanii Domini, videlicet, vij die Januarii, anno quo supra, domino Adam de Flatebury et Magistro Johanne Keney alias dicto Scot, coram nobis citatis, vocatis et diucius expectatis, et nullo modo comparentibus, eosdem contumaces pronunciamus et in penam contumacie ipsos exommunicauimus in scriptis.

523. 6 Feb., A.D. above, at Cirencestre. The lord dispensed with Philip, rector of the church of Merschton, subdean, that he may pursue the study of letters anywhere for three years.

524. 6 Feb., year and place above. The lord conferred the church of Chelleworthe on Adam de Neuport. Mandate to the archdeacon of Bath to induct.

525. The chapter of Wells to Bishop Ralph.

Quia decanatus ecclesie vestre Wellensis per mortem domini I. de Godeley nuper Decani nostri vacare dinoscitur in presenti, vestre paternitati humiliter supplicamus quatinus nobis ad quos tam de consuetudino quam de iure eligendi potestas noscitur pertinere eligendi licenciam fauorabiliter tribuere,ac literas vestras patentes superea concedere dignetur paternitas si libeat reuerenda.

Wells, v. Id., Feb., A.D. 1332.

Et quarto Id. Februarii dominus concessit per literas suas patentes prefato Capitulo ad eligendum decanum qui Deo foret deuotus, sibique et ecclesiis prelibatis necessarius et fidelis.

526. Tercio Id., Februarii, anno Domini supradicto, apud Clauerton, dominus concessit Roberto filio Willelmi Isabell de Clauerton nativo suo quod ad primam tonsuram a quocumque episcopo catholico licite valeat ordinari, eo non obstante quod nativus suus et de diocesi oriundus, &c.

527. 22 Feb., A.D. abovesaid. Letters dimissory for Nicholas de Brumleghe, rector of the church of Kyngeston Seymour, acolyte, to be promoted to the order of subdeacon.

528. Same day and place. The lord presented to J. Bishop of Winchester, Sir John de Wodecote, then rector of the church of Milsted, diocese of Canterbury, to the church of Dogmeresfeld, by reason of exchange with Sir John de Schaldeford, rector of the church of Dogmeresfeld.

529. Bishop Ralph admitted Master Richard de Bury, alias de Sancto Edmundo to the deanery of Wells, in the person of Sir William de Tikehulle, clerk, his proxy.

Woky, x Kal., March, A.D. above.

530. Radulphus, &c., dilecto in Christo filio Magistris Ricardo de Thistelden, Thesaurario et Johanni Martel, canonico ecclesie nostre Wellensis, Officiali nostro salutem. Peticio pro parte Magistri Ricardi de Bury, alias de Sancto Edmundo, Decani ecclesie nostre cathedralis Wellensis nobis exhibita continebat, quod dominus Johannes de Godelee predecessor inmediatus

ipsius, qui a predecessore suo inmediato pro domorum defectibus et aliis necessariis reparandis circiter trescentos marcas dicitur accepisse, et quod denarios in reparacione defectuum huiusmodi non exposuit nec expendit, quedam nihilominus edificia decanatus dirruta et deficiencia, ac quedam ruinis exposita, necnon et alios defectus ad onus ipsius dum vixit spectancia seu spectantes suis reparare temporibus et reficere distulit, ac incorrecta seu incorrectos dimisit tempore quo decessit, &c. Quocirca vobis committimus et mandamus quatinus ad maneria sive loca prefati decanatus personaliter accedentes, vocatis partibus et aliis quorum interest in premissis juxta formam concilii seu statuti per reuerendum patrem dominum S. Dei gratia Cantuariensem Archiepiscopum tocius Anglie Primatem Londonie nuper editi per juratos viros in vestra presencia fidedignos super omnibus et singulis defectibus antedictis in locis infra ambitum prefati consistentibus decanatus, utrum, videlicet, dictus dominus Johannes de Godeley pecuniam pro defectibus receperit antedictam, &c.

Woky, ix Kal., Marcii, anno Domini supradicto, &c.

531. ix Kal., March., A.D. above at Woky. Institution of Sir John de Chernbury, priest, to the vicarage of Dunsterre, vacant by the resignation of Sir Ralph de Sloutere, at the presentation of the prior of Bath.

Fol. 79. 532. Eisdem die et loco dominus concessit Magistro Johanni de Bruyton, canonico Wellensi, licenciam eligendi confessorem, qui ipsum de peccatis suis corde contrito confessis absoluere valeat, &c., juxta discrecionem a Deo sibi datam injungere pro commissis punitiam salutarem : cui videlicet confessori per ipsum sic electo dominus commisit vices suas eciam in casibus sibi specialiter reservatis per unum annum tantummodo duraturas.

533. viij Kal., March., A.D. above, at Woky. Institution of Wolter Antony, priest, to the church of Foxcote, vacant by the resignation of John de Langeton, at the presentation of Thomas de Kyngeston.

534. Bishop Ralph to Masters Richard de Thistelden, the

treasurer, John Martel, canon of Wells, and John de Karleton clerk.

We commit to you our office to receive proof of the will of Sir John de Godeley, late dean of Wells.

Woky, 17 Feb., A.D. above.

535. 24 Feb., A.D. above, at Brugg[water]. The lord granted licence to brother Maurice de la More, of the order of Friars Minors, of Brugg, to hear confessions for a year.

536. 1 March, A.D. above at Wyvelescomb. Licence for William de Hampton, rector of Bageworthe, priest, to study for a year in England.

537. Bishop Ralph to Armand, Archbishop of Aix, certifying

(1) the definitive sentence for Robert de Wamberge, archdeacon of Wells, against Sir Simon de Monte Acuto, to the Roman court. Dated at Wyvelescomb, 1 March, A.D. 1332; there being present Masters Walter de Burton, S.P.P., John de Carleton, Thomas de Neuton, Stephen Tripp, public notary and others,

(2) The interlocutory certificate.

(3) Subscriptio Notarii, que deseruiebat utrique sentencie supradicte. And I, Robert de Chig[well]. clerk, of Norwich, public notary, scribe of the lord Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, have subscribed and set my seal to these present letters.

Mem., that Master Stephen Tripp, public notary, was present at the signing of the second certificate, made before the Bishop, and set his accustomed seal to the same, under date 10 June, A.D. 1332. Present, Masters W. de Burton, J. de Karleton, and W. de Ludeford.

538. iij Non., March, A.D. above, at Wyvelscomb. Dominus concessit Johanni de Gerbarston quod ab isto die per unum annum in capella infra curiam suam de Gerbarston situata per aliquem presbiterum ydoneum coram se, uxore, et libera sua familia absque prejudicio matricis ecclesie diuina licite valeat facere celebrari.

539. Day before the Nones of March, in the year and place abovesaid. Licence for Thomas de Erlegh, rector of the church of Kyngesalre, acolyte, to study for a year in England.

540. Rauf par la suffraunce de Dieu Euesque de Baa et de Wells, a touz noz tenauntz de nostre manoir de Pukelch, saluz en Dieu. Purceqe nous auoms graunte et congie done a nostre cher et bien ame sire Thomas de Schirugge de faire un put ou dieux a foer charbons dedeinz le preceint de nostre manoir auantdite taneqil nous plest, vous maundons qe lauantdit Thomas sur ceo ne desturber : mes luꝭ suffrez foer en la fourme desusdite. Done souz nostre priuie seal a Wuielescombe, le ix iour de Marz, lan de nostre sacre, quart.

541. xii Kal., Ap., A.D. abovesaid, at Welyngton. The lord granted to Richard de Loughteburgh, rector of Westmoncketon that he is in no wise bound to make personal residence in the said church until the feast of St. Michael next to come.

The said licence was granted at the instance of Sir Philip de Columbariis.

542. xv Kal., April, A.D. above, at Wyuelesc[omb], by authority of commission of John, bishop of Exeter, the bishop of Bath arranged the matter of exchange between Sir John Eysi, rector of the church of St. Just, in Cornwall, and Richard de Braunkescombe, rector of the church of Northcatebury, and admitted the said John Eysi to the said church of Northcatebury and instituted him in the same.

xij Kal., April, at Welyngton, the same Richard, in the person of John Elys, priest, his proxy, to which he was presented by John Le Soor, was admitted to the church of St. Just, John Eysi was presented to the church of Northcatebury by Margaret de Meules, patron by reason of her dower.

Fol. 80. Commission by John, bishop of Exeter to Bishop Ralph, for the above exchange between John de Eysi and Richard de Braunkescomb.

Welyngton, die qua supra.

543. xvi Kal., Ap., A.D., above, at Boclond. Institution of

Master John de Middelton, priest, to the church of Bradeford, presented by Sir Walter Meriet.

544. xv Kal., Ap. In the year above, at Wyuelesc[omb].
Dominus dispensauit cum Roberto Finel, de Cammel, clerico sue diocesis, de soluto genito, &c.

545. xv Kal., Ap., A.D., abovesaid, at Wyvel[escomb]. Dominus auctoritate literarum apostolicarum penes registrum suum remanencium dispensavit cum Ricardo Kateryn de Witlakyngton sue diocesis scolare de presbitero genito et soluta quod eo non obstante defectu possit ad omnes minores ordines promoveri, &c.

546. ix Kal., Ap., A.D. above.
The lord granted licence to the perpetual vicar of Ivele to hear confessions of all his parishioners.
Hic mutatur data, et incipit annus Domini millesimus ccc^mus^ tricessimus tercius.

547. Quarto Kal., Aprilis, anno Domini millesimo, ccc^mo^ xxxiij, apud Wyvelesc[omb], dominus auctoritate literarum apostolicarum, dispensavit cum Willelmo de Stoddone, clerico sue diocesis de soluto genito, &c.

548. Pridie, Kal., Aprilis, anno et loco predictis.
Institution of Robert Le Fizours [Fitzurse] clerk to the parish church of Baggedrip [Bawdrip] to which he was presented by John de Durreburgh by reason of the dower of Joan his wife.

549. Same day, &c. Institution of Sir Thomas de Carslake, priest, in the person of Thomas Slegh, of Churleton, his proxy, to the church of Wotton [W. Courtney], vacant by the free resignation of Master William de Columbrigge, to which he was presented by the prior and monks of Stokecurcy.

550. Eccellentissimo principi ac domino suo domino Edwardo, &c. Radulphus, &c., eterne felicitatis augmentum in Christo

cum omni eo quod poterit obsequii reuerencie et honoris. Magnifice celsitudinis vestre literis pro subsidio in magnorum sumptuum subuencionem quos pro maritagio nobilis domine, domine Alianore sororis vestre carissime fecistis et etiam inpendistis nobis directis, et cum ea qua decuit reuerencia receptis et plenius intellectis. Quamquam a nostre promocionis exordio grandibus agendis et arduis, tam in Curia Romana quam alibi pro juris nostri et ecclesiarum nostrarum necessaria prosecucione non sine gravibus expensis fuimus multipliciter circumsepti, ex quibus et aliis quas silencio duximus committendas gravissimo ere alieno cui facultates nostre in presenti minime corespondent sumus oppressi et pariter onerati. Verum beneplacitis vestre regie majestatis condescendere intimo mentis optantes affectu, quod utinam opere possemus perficere, in hujusmodi sumptuum subvencionem, quadraginta libras sterlingorum vobis concedimus et donamus. Vestre dominacioni reuerende humiliter supplicantes, quatinus ex causis pretactis nos habere dignemini favorabiliter excusatos; hujusmodi exiguum nostrum munus placito si libeat acceptantes. Ad tutum regni regimen et munimen, vos custodiat et dirigat gratia saluatoris. Scriptum, &c.

551. Decimo die Aprilis, anno Domini supradicto apud Wyvelesc[omb], ad instanciam domini Willelmi de Betteville, rectoris ecclesie de Westludeford, dominus concessit quod parochiani sui ibidem ad faciendam ecclesiam, nec ipse cancellum de Westludford predicta, prout proclamaciones publice per Commissarium domini super hoc per totam diocesim facte fuerant, dedicari, citra festum sancti Michaelis post datam presentium proximum secuturum per se aut ministros suos quoscumque nullatenus arceantur.

552. We, Ralph, &c., have received from Sir Nicholas perpetual vicar of Cerde, and Henry de la Hoghe, 19*li.* 3*s.* 4*d.* for our manor of Cerde, that is to say, for Easter term of their second year and the fourth of our consecration.

Wivelesc[omb], 14 Ap., A.D. 1333.

553. Bishop Ralph to the Pope.

Cum nuper Adam de Brutton, presbiter, Wellensis diocesis,

pro eo quod benediccionem in secundus nuptus contra sanctiones canonicas iterauit, pro absolutione super tanto commisso ad me venerat obtinenda: affectans patrum decretis pro viribus ut teneor inherere, eundem presbiterum hac occasione juxta effectum decretorum hujusmodi ab officio suspensum, vestre beatitudini cum presentium literarum testimonio destinavi. . . . Datum, &c.

554. 1 May, A.D. above, at Welyngton. Arrangement of an exchange between Sir Walter, perpetual vicar of Puryton, and Nicholas de Somerton, perpetual vicar of Nortone under Hamedon, both in the diocese of Bath and Wells. Sir Walter instituted in the person of Master Walter de Wyke, his proxy. Fol. 81.

555. Commission by Bishop Ralph to Master Walter de Hulle, rector of the church of Schepton Belli Campi, to arrange the exchange between John de Plumstoke, rector of the church of Astyngtone, and Richard Barthelmeu, rector of the church of Kylve "nostre diocesis beneficia."
Dated, &c.

556. 14 May, A.D. above, at Wyvelescomb. Institution of William de Baldyngdon, priest, to the vicarage of the prebendal church of Hywyssch, to which he was presented by Master Robert de Wamberge, archdeacon of Wells.

557. Coronatio apud Kyngn[esbury].
Memorandum quod die sancte Trinitatis apud Kyngesbury anno Domini supradicto dominus episcopus Ricardo de Burgh in eodem manerio de Kyng[esbury] nativo suo non obstante nayuitate sua contulit primam tonsuram.
Eisdem die et loco dominus dispensavit cum Thoma Fraunkeleyn, de Stokelynch, quod non obstante defectu quem patiebatur, de soluto genito et soluta, valeat ad primam tonsuram licite promoveri eandemque tonsuram sibi contulit tunc ibidem.

558. Die Lune sequenti videlicet ultimo die Maii, dominus concessit Johanni Say de Martoke quod per unum annum in

honesto oratorio infra mansum suum de Martoke coram se, uxore, et sua libera familia absque preiudicio sue matricis ecclesie per capellanum ydoneum divina valeat facere celebrari.

Same day and place, the lord granted to Joan who was the wife of Matthew de Eisset that she may cause divine services to be celebrated in her mansion of Codeworth, as above.

Fol. 81b. 559. On the last day of May, A.D. above, at Kyngesbury. The lord granted to Henry Poer that he can have divine services celebrated in any suitable place which he shall appoint within the court of William de Lottesham for a year.

560. Universis Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes litere peruenerint, Radulphus &c., salutem. Noveritis nos dedisse, concessisse et presenti scripto nostro confirmasse Willelmo Le Barber de Oxonia unum messuajium et dimidium virgate terre cum pertinentis que Willelmus North nuper de nobis tenuit in villenagio in manerio nostro de Dogmeresfeld cum toto Ouerlonde et purprestura que idem Willelmus North nuper de nobis tenuit in eadem villa. Habendum et tenendum, &c., eidem Willelmo Le Barber ad terminum vite sua libere, quiete, bene et in pace adeo integre sicut predictus Willelmus North illa prius tenuit, denobis et successoribus nostris. Reddendo inde annuatim nobis et successoribus nostris septemdecim solidos, octo denarios et obolum, &c.

Datum apud Kyngesbury, in Comitatu Somerset xxvj die Maii, anno regni regis Edwardi tercii septimo.

561. Mandate by Bishop Ralph to the keeper of the jurisdiction of Glaston ordering him to publish the absolutions reserved to the bishop, viz., "Clericorum percussores, sanctimonialium corruptores, scientes perjurii, parcorum et clausorum ad ecclesias nostras Bathonienses et Wellenses et nos pertinencium effractores, ae aliarum quarumcumque libertatum et immunitatum ecclesiasticarum violatores."

Woky, x Kal., March, A.D. 1332.

Sub ista forma scribebatur Decano Wellensi et singulis Decanis ruralibus.

562. The vicar of Welyngton to Bishop certifying that he had carried out the sentence of excommunication against those who laid violent hands on Henry de Waldene, clerk, and the possession of his clerkship within the Bishop's close of Boclonde near Welyngton. Fol. 82.

Welyngton, Saturday next before the feast of the Ascension of the Lord, in the year aforesaid.

563. xv Kal. July, 1333, at Euercrich. The lord granted to brothers Thomas Godman and Ralph de la Haye, of the order of Friars Minors, of Bristol, that the said Thomas can hear confessions of the lord's subjects throughout the whole diocese, and the said Ralph, in the parish of Dichesghete only for a year.

564. xiv Kal., July, at Euercrich. Licence for Henry Peres, rector of the church of Allyngford, to stay in the service of the Lady Joan de Ralegh for a year.

565. xiij Kal., July, in the year aforesaid, at Euercrich. Institution of Gregory de Halberton to the church of Westkoker, presented by Sir Hugh de Courtenay, knight.

566. Confessio Rogeri Le Free de Kyngesbury.

Memorandum quod nonodecimo die mensis Junii, indictione prima, anno Domino m.ccc. xxxiij, &c. Rogerus Le Frie de Kyngesbury coram domino R. episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi in camera sua apud Euercrich personaliter constitura, super eo quod idem Rogerus manerium dicti episcopi apud Kyngesbury ingrediens contra voluntatem ipsius episcopi hostia grangiarum claudi fecit et ipsam sigillo suo signavit, ministros dicti patris ibidem deputatos quonimus grangias hujusmodi ingredi et de bobus in eisdem existentibus disponere poterunt juxta voluntatem episcopi predicti nequiter impediendo, ordinacioni eiusdem se submisit expresse, &c., quem idem episcopus a sententia excommunicationis quam occasione premissa incurrebat obsolvit. Presentibus Magistris W. de Burton, Johanne de Risingdone Nicholas de la Rade et Willelmo de Crollynge.

567. xiv Kal., July, in the year abovesaid, at Evercrich. John atte Chambre, of Banewelle, bailiff of the prior of Brynton,

formerly excommunicated because, being cited to appear before the commissary of Wells for adultery at Banewell, with Alice Dodde, did not appear but now personally appearing is absolved. Presentibus, domino Johanne de Risyngdon rectore ecclesie de Jeuele, Magistris Waltero de Teteneye et Waltero de Banewelle, clericis, et aliis in multitudine copiosa.

568. Notarial Act setting forth bond of Roger Le Frie to Bishop Ralph in 20*li.*
Dated at Kingesbury, 21 June, 7 Edw. iii.
Present John Greu, William Loue, Thomas Peron.

569. A.D. 1333, June 25. Notarial instrument setting forth bond of Roger Hanem, of Ceddre, to Bishop Ralph in 5 marks.
Dated at Euercrich, Friday the morrow of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, 7 Edw. iii.

Fol. 83. 570. Bishop Ralph to the prioress and convent of Kanyngton. We lately prayed you by reason of our first creation to receive Alice, daughter of John de Northelode, amongst you as a nun. You, without having regard to what we ought to have of right, have not yet been willing to receive the said Alice. We order you speedily to receive the said Alice as a nun.
Woky, &c.

571. vii Id., July, A.D. 1333, at Woky. Institution of Nicholas de Batecomb, priest, to the vicarage of Southpederton, to which he was presented by the prior and convent of Bruton.
Same day, &c. Institution of Henry Percehay, clerk, to the church of Widecombe, presented by Sir Walter de Meriet.

572. Simon, archbishop of Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph, reciting letter of Master Thomas de Asteleye, archdeacon of Middlesex, and Riamund de Mota, commissaries of the lord Icherius de Concoreto, receiver of the tenth within-written, containing the tenour which follows :—Requirimus et monemus quatinus vos domine Archiepiscope, &c. c.f. No. 508.
Wishing to execute them in all things we intimate to your brotherhood that you study to do and execute them.
Maghefeld, vij Kal., July, in the year aforesaid.

573. Bishop Ralph to the perpetual vicars of Banewelle, Congresbury, and Jattone, and to the rector of Kyngestone Seymour or the parish chaplain there, ordering them to denounce as excommunicated those who have stolen from the houses, manors, granges, &c., of bishopric, the names of whom are unknown.

Woky, vi Id., July, in the year aforesaid.

574. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 83b.

The petition of Sir John Gilbert, priest, exhibited to us, contained that, although the said John was presented to the parish church of Chiltone near Bruggewauter, nevertheless you refuse to institute the said Sir John. Wherefore, we inhibit you, and through you, all and singular, of whom the law requires, that you do not attempt prejudice pending the said cause of appeal in the court of Canterbury.

Lesnes, vi Kal., July, A.D. 1333.

575. Bishop Ralph absolves Thomas de Schauebury, perpetual vicar of Wynescomb, priest, from the sentence of suspension from office for clandestinely solemnizing matrimony, "tam simplex et iuris ignarus inter quemdam virum et mulierem quandam extra parochialem ecclesiam in quadam capella. . . absque aliqua edicione bannorum," according to the force of a papal letter.

Dated at Woky.

576. Bishop Ralph to Richard de Thistelden, the treasurer, Robert de Baldoke, Lawrence de la Barre, and John de London, canons of Wells.

Whereas Hugh le Barber, of Grauntebrugge, clerk, as it is asserted, was convicted before the King's justices of the homicide of Adam, son of William Le Hordere, of Michelstoke, within the hundred of Whitston, and according to the ecclesiastical liberty was sent to our prison, he had offered to purge himself lawfully of such crime. We commit to you, three or two of you our office to execute all the premises.

Woky, 18 July, in the year abovesaid.

577 Richard Lovel, lord of Caricastel to Bishop Ralph.

Cum frater Willelmus de Nymesfeld, nuper prior ecclesie de Staverdale, nostri patronatus, viam uniuerse carnis fuerit ingressus, et corpus eius sepulture ut decuit honorifice traditus, ac ejusdem loci canonici, habita nostra licencia, patrem Henricum de Nymesfeld dicte ecclesie canonicum, in Priorem unanimiter elegerint et pastorem, paternitati vestre duximus supplicandum quatinus eundem Henricum, ad eiusdem loci Prioratum per nostram presentacionem benigne admittatis, exequendo si placet ulterius quod incumbit.

Caricastel, Wednesday, the morrow of St. Margaret the Virgin, A.D. 1333.

The canons of Staverdale, of the order of St. Victor, to Bishop Ralph sending to him by brother John de Worthe, the subprior, the matter as to the election of Henry de Nymesfeld.

Staverdale, Wednesday, the morrow of St. Margaret the Virgin, A.D. 1333.

A.D. 1333, Wednesday, the morrow of St. Margaret the Virgin. Decree of Hugh de Horwode, by the consent of all of the college of Staverdale, providing Henry de Nymesfeld as prior.

In Dei nomine amen. Cum nuper vacante prioratu Sancte Jacobi de Staverdale, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem fratris Willelmi de Nymesfeld . . . . Nos Radulphus, &c., eundem fratrem Henricum in Priorem dicti prioratus tenore presencium preficimus et pastorem. Fol. 84.

Bishop Ralph to Henry de Nymesfeld, canon of Staverdale.

Quia comperimus dictam electionem minus sufficienter probatam, defectumque in forma, licet non materia, multipliciter continentem, &c., ipsam electionem cassamus, et judicialiter infirmamus; pronunciantes jus prouidendi eidem prioratui ista vice, ad nos fore legitime devolutum. Nos itaque volentes, ut nostro incumbit officio, prioratui consulere memorato, ne propter vacacionem diutinam paciatur in spiritualibus, quod absit, et temporalibus detrimentum, eidem prioratui te, quem ad hoc ydoneum reputamus, jure sic ad nos devoluto, preficimus in priorem, &c.

Blakeford, 24 July, A.D. 1333.

Mandate by the Bishop to Sir Richard Lovel to deliver the temporal goods to the prior.

Mandate to the archdeacon of Wells to induct the said prior.

Mandate to the sub-prior and canons of Staverdale to obey the said prior.

Acta fuerunt hec omnia ut suprascribuntur in Capella domini episcopi juxta cameram Manerii sui de Blakeford die et anno Domini supradictis. Presentibus Magistris Johanne de Risyngdon, Waltero de Teteneye, Waltero de Banewell, juris peritis.

578. 26 July, A.D. above, at Blakeford. Institution of Walter de Quenton, acolyte, to the church of Thurlokestone, presented by the prior and convent of Taunton. Vacant by the resignation of Sir Gilbert last rector.

579. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Wells, ordering business fairs and markets shall cease in the cemeteries of churches.

Woky, ii Id., July, A.D. above.

Sub isto tenore scribebatur Archidiaconis Wellensibus et Taunton' ac custodi jurisdictionis Glaston', necnon de Radeclyue et Bathonie decanatuum Decanis quia archidiiaconatus Bathonie tunc vacabat.

580. Kal., Aug., A.D. above, at Blakeford. Institution of Sir Henry de Kary, late vicar of Lockynge, to the vicarage of Were, and Sir Walter, late vicar of Were, to the vicarage of Lockynge, vacant by the resignation of the said vicars by reason of exchange. Patrons of Were the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, Bristol. Patrons of Lockynge the prior and canons of Worspring.

581. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Frome and the perpetual vicar of the same place.

Cum nos legitime procedentes Willelmum Le Rous de Frome ad respondendum certis interrogatoriis anime sue correccionem tangentibus sibi ex nostro officio objiciendis legitime citatum et nullo modo comparentem pronunciauerimus contumacem, ipsumque pro sua hujusmodi contumacia excommunicauerimus justicia requirente; vobis in virtute obediencie firmiter injun-

gendo mandamus quatinus dictum Willelmum . . . . cum omni solempnitate qua decet in e[cclesia] parochiali de Frome diebus dominicis et festivis intra missarum solempnia cum major affuerit populi multitudo publice nuncietis, &c.

Blakesford, Friday, the morrow of St. Oswald in the year above.

*Indemnity to Dean Godley's Executors in re Cathedral alterations and funds collected.*

Fol. 85. 582. Pateat universis per presentes quod nos Radulphus permissione divina Bathon' et Wellen' episcopus remisimus, relaxauimus et pro nobis et successoribus nostris quietum clamavimus inperpetuum domino Hamelino de Godelegh, Ricardo de Chudderlegh, Johanni de Chudderlegh, et domino Rogero de Actone executoribus testamenti domini Johannis de Godel[egh] nuper Decani Wellensis defuncti et eorum heredibus et testamentorum executoribus omnimodas acciones quas habuimus vel habere poterimus erga dictum defunctum vel executores suos ratione demolicionis ecclesie Wellensis predicte, operis seu fabrice ejusdem ecclesie per ipsum defunctum qualitercumque dum vixit inchoate vel per eundem perficiende. Ac etiam cujuscumque pecunie tam ad opus seu fabricam dicte ecclesie quam stallos chori, canonizacionem domini Willelmi de Marchia seu aliunde quacumque de causa concesse, collecte per eundem defunctum dum vixit seu per executores suos ad dictum opus seu fabricam dicte ecclesie ante diem confeccionis presencium recepte. Necnon omnimodis accionibus nobis et successoribus nostris qualitercumque competentibus et competituris ratione ecclesie Wellensis predicte erga dictos executores et heredes vel eorum testimentorum executores a principio mundi usque diem confeccionis presenticum pure, sponte, simpliciter et absoluta renunciamus per presentes. Quibuscumque accionibus, peticionibus prosecucionibus, et aliis iuris remediis contra alias quascumque personas propter premissa, vel eorum occasione qualitercumque competentibus et competituris nobis saluis et reseruatis. In quorum omnium testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi.

Datum apud Blakeford sexto die mensis Augusti, anno Domini millesimo ccc. xxxiij, et nostre consecrationis quarto.

583. Bishop Ralph to Master Walter de Burtone, canon of Wells.

Volentes personam tuam favore prosequi gracioso, domos illas quas dominus Henricus de Sandwico, Canonicus dicte Wellensis ecclesie ac Archidiaconus Bathoniensis in civitate Wellie inhabitavit, et ad vite sue terminum optinebat, per mortem ejusdem Henrici vacantes, et ad nostram collacionem spectantes, vobis conferimus, &c.

Woky, 5 July, A.D. 1333.

584. xv. Kal., Sept., A.D. 1333, at Slymbrugge near Gloucester. Institution of John de Troubrugge, priest, to the church of Westludeford, presented by William de Reigny.

585. Day before the Kal., Sept., A.D. above, at Teukesbury, Licence for Thomas de Northeye, rector of the church of Burnet, to stay in the service of the abbot of Teukesbury for two years.

586. 2 Sept., A.D. above, at Puk[lechurch], at the instance of William de Tracy, the lord granted to John Le Cooke, of Bath, subdeacon, letters dimissory to the orders of deacon and priest.

587. Roger de Brenigtone, vicar general of Adam, bishop of Worcester, to Bishop Ralph, asking him to reconcile the cemetery of the cathedral church of Worcester, polluted by effusion of blood.

Herford, 28 Aug., A.D. 1333.

Tercio Non., Septembris, mutatur annus consecrationis domini R. Episcopi.

588. iii Non., Sept. Virtute cujusdam institutionis coram domino exhibite et per Magistrum Robertum de Worthe, Canonicum Sarum, venerabilis patris episcopi Sarum in remotis agentis, vicarium generalem, auctoritate sibi commissa facte,

optentu permutacionis inter Magistrum Henricum de la Forde de Stoke Abbatis Sarum diocesis, et dominum Thomam de London, de Meriet, nostre diocesis nuper ecclesiarum rectores iuxta sanctiones canonicas per dictum vicarium expedite, &c., dominus mandavit archidiacone Taunton' ad inducendum predictum Magistrum Henricum in corporalem possessionem ecclesie de Meriet prelibate, &c,

Datum apud Chu anno supradicto.

589. 7 Sept., A.D. 1333, at Woky. The lord arranged the matter of exchange between Master William de Lutleton, canon and prebendary of St. Probus, in Cornwall, diocese of Exeter, and Sir Thomas de Stapelton, canon and prebendary of Cumbe quinta, in the church of Wells, and conferred the said canonry and prebend of Cumbe quinta on the said Master William.

590. 9 Sept., A.D. above, at Woky. Licence for John de Bere, rector of the church of Aischolte, to pursue his cause in the Court of Arches, but to appear at the visitation.

591. Same day and place. The lord granted to the prior of Stokecurcy that he may be absent from his house aforesaid until the feast of St. Nicholas next to visit his abbot dwelling in the parts beyond the seas,

592. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Wells.

We hope to go down to our churches of Bath and Wells, that is to say, to your church on Monday next after the feast of the Nativity of the B. Virgin Mary next to perform the office of our visitation.

Blakeford, pridie Kal., Aug., A.D. 1333.

On which said Monday the lord carried out his visitation in the chapter house of Wells.

593. Thomas, prior of Bath, to Bishop Ralph.

We have received your mandate, dated at Chu, 3 Sept. A.D. 1333, proroguing your going down to the church of Bath to perform the office of your visitation on Wednesday after the feast of the Nativity of the B. Mary next to the Monday following, and we have executed your mandates of all things.

Bath, on the Monday of the Exaltation in the Holy Cross, in the year above.

On which Monday the lord visited the prior, subprior, and monks of the said monastery. Fol 86.

594. On the day following he went down to the Abbey of Keynesham and visited the abbot and canons there.

595. Form of mandate to warn the diocese of the visitation of the lord.

596. x Kal., Oct., at Chu.

Dominus demandauit Archidiacono Taunton' aut ejus Officiali ut Johannem de Nauenby, nuper rèctorem ecclesie de Brendon, Exon' in corporalem possessionem vicarie de Pipmunstre per liberam resignationem Thome le Eyr ultimi vicarii ibidem vacantis occasione permutacionis, &c., inducerent, facerent ve induci defenderent et indictum, &c.

597. Same day at Jatton. The lord granted to brothers Peter de Berkele, Thomas de Sutton, John de Berkele, Robert de London, and Nicholas de Legh, licence to hear confessions throughout the whole diocese and to preach the word of God to the people, to last for two years. The said brethren are of the order of friars hermits of the convent of St. Augustine, Bristol.

598. ix Kal., Oct., at Worspringe.

Licence for John de Schuplakè, priest, to stay in the service of the lord Hugh de Audeley for a year.

599. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Axebridge.

We propose to visit the churches of Huttone, Kyustoke, Worle, and Lockynge in the said church of Worle on Friday next after the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle next, on Saturday, the churches of Bloedon, Uphulle, Weston, and the chapel of Pokerston, in the said church of Uphulle, on Monday, the churches of Lymplesham, Loxtone. Crucchestone, and Brome, in the said church of Loxtone, and on Tuesday the morrow the churches of Burnham, Berghes, Estbrente, and Southbrente, in the said church of Berghes. We command you that you cite all and singular whom our visitation concerns.

Claverton, xiv Kal., Oct., in the year, &c.

600. Under this form it was written to all the deans in the diocese.

601. Bishop Ralph to the abbot of Keynesham,

Cum nuper in monasterio vestro jure diocesis visitacionis nostre officium excercentes, invenimus quod canonicis et fratribus cjusdem monasterii per eorum vestura nimis exiliter prouisum extiterat ipsius monasterii attenta propensius facultate. Volentes igitur paterna prouidencia defectui huiusmodi succurrere ut tenemur, vos monemus et hortamus in Domino quatinus ad debitum premissorum augmentum ita curetis manus apponere adjutrices, ne nos in hiis cum graviori dispendio erigere oporteat alias manus nostras. Ita execucioni debite citra festum Nativitatis Domini proximum futurum effectualiter demandetis. Datum apud Blakeford, &c.

602. 2 Oct., in the year, &c., at Brugg[water]. Master Walter Pollard admitted as a canon of Wells.

603. 3 Oct., in the year, &c., at Brugg[water]. The lord granted letters dimissory for Robert Le Lange, of Brug[water], clerk, to obtain all minor and holy orders.

604. 4 Oct., at Blakeford. Licence for Thomas Le White, rector of the church of Camelegh, subdeacon, to study for a year in England.

605. 6 Oct., in the year above, at Blakeford. Dominus concessit Elizabethe de Bourne quod in oratorio suo siue capella infra mansionem suum de Bourne situata, possit per unum annum coram se et libera sua familia diuina facere celebrari, licenciam specialem. dumtamen matrici ecclesie eiusdem loci videlicet ecclesie parochiali de Wryngton ex hoc prejudicium nullatenus inferatur.

606. Septimo die eiusdem mensis Johannes perpetuus varius (*sic*) de Berghes, Thomas De la More, Johannes de Farntone, Michaelis de Bergh', Ricardus Stephene, Symon Mildesone, Johannes Scharp, Walterus Batecoke, et Ricardus Com, parochiani ecclesie de Berghes, coram nobis Radulpho permissione

divina, &c., in aula manerii nostri de Blakeford personaliter comparentes fatentur se et quemlibet eorum insolidum teneri nobis ex causa legitima in decem marcis et duobas solidis, &c. Unde nos eorum spontaneam confessionem secuti, dictos Johannem, &c., in decem marcis et duobus solidis sterlingorum nobis citra festum Purificationis Beate Marie predictum plenarie persoluendis in hiis scriptis sentencialiter condempnamus. Presentibus Domino Ricardo de Luffenham et Willelmo de Ludeford, clericis.

607. 8 Oct., A.D. above, at Blakeford. Licence for brother William de Anne, warden of the order and convent of Friars Minors, of Brug' to hear confessions, according to the form which begins "Super cathedra," for a year. Fol. 87.

608. Litera conversacionis.

Universis, &c., Radulphus, &c. Universitati vestre tenore presencium innotescat, quod dominus Ricardus Dauid de Bokyngham presbiter in ecclesia parochiali de Welyngtone nostre diocesis per viginti quatuor annos continuos prout ex fide dignorum accepimus testimonium, celebrauit divina, ibidem laudabiliter conversando, non excommunicatus, nec aliquo crimine irretitus sed licenciatus inde se transtulit cum spe et gratia redeundi.

Datum apud Blak[ford] die quo supra, anno, &c.

609. 9th day of the month aforesaid, at Blakeford. Institution of Richard de Keynesham, priest, to the vicarage of Dunsterre, presented by the prior and convent of Bath.

610. 14 Oct., A.D. above, at Iuelcestre. Dominus admisit Johannem de Iuelcestre, lectorem conventus fratem ordinis predicatorum Iuelcestrie per fratrem Symonem Priorem provincialem ejusdem ordinis in provincia Anglie sibi tanquam ydoneum presentatum et ad audiendas confessiones subditorum suorum juxta formam constitutionis que incipit "Super cathedra" licenciam sibi dedit dum lector fuerit ut premittur duraturam.

611. 15th day of the same month, at Iuelcestre. Letters dimissory for Henry de Pettlynge Magna, perpetual vicar of the church of Sowy, acolyte, to seek or obtain all holy orders.

612. Same day, at Langesutton. Licence for brother William de Anne, warden of the order and convent of Friars Minors at Brugg' to hear confessions in cases reserved.

613. Same day and place. Licence for William Pieres, rector of the church of Northstoke, priest, to study for a year in England.

614. Same day and place. Dominus concessit domino Baldewino rectori ecclesia de Holeford sue diocesis presbitero licenciam solempnizandi matrimonium inter Ricardum de Stapelton et Elianoram de Stawell in capella de Cuthelstone quaminus parochialis ecclesia non existat; bannis tamen editis primitus, &c.

615. Icherius de Concoreto, the Papal Nuncio to Bishop Ralph to certify him concerning vacant benefices by the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle next. London, 4 Aug. A.D. 1333.

616. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.
The petition of Sir Matthew de Valencenis, archdeacon of Bath, exhibited to us contained that, although the same Matthew had canonically possessed the said archdeaconry, you, nevertheless, ordered the said Sir Matthew to desist from the occupation of the said archdeaconry, &c. Wherefore we inhibit you from attempting prejudice pending appeal. Also we cite you to appear before us or our commissary on the 6th judicial day after the feast of All Saints.
Stanewell, ii Id., Sept., A.D. 1333.

617. 16 Oct., A.D. above, at Langesutton. Institution of Thomas de Burgo Sancti Petri, priest, to the vicarage of Ayschull, to which he was presented by Master Roger de Nassington, canon and prebendary of Ayschull.

618. 5 Nov. A.D. above, at Blakeford. Licence for Thomas Chelry, rector of the church of Sevenhamptone St. Michael, to absent himself for a year.

619 15 Nov. at Evercrich. Licence for Gregory, rector of the church of Weskoker, to be absent for a year, at the instance of Sir Hugh de Courtenay.

620. 9 Nov. at Wells, A.D. above. Institution of Edmund Merlaund, clerk, to the church of Orchardlegh, at the presentation of Henry de Merlaund.

621. xv Kal., Dec., A.D. above, at Evercrich. Institution of Fol. 88. Stephen de Bradene, deacon, to the chantry which Sir Thomas Basset, chaplain, lately held in the church of Pokyngton, at the presentation of Sir Reginald de Pauely.

622. 21 Nov., A.D. above, at Evercrich. Licence for Thomas Dumbredan, rector of the church of Comptone Pauncefot, priest, to absent himself for a year.

623. 20 Nov., A.D. above, at Evercrich. Exchange between Robert Alwy, rector of Bleodone, diocese of Bath and Wells, and Philip de la Lee, rector of Forton, diocese of Coventry and Lichfield.

624. Day before Kal., Dec., A.D. above, at Evercrich, the lord arranged the matter of exchange between Sir John de Sutton, rector of Stokegiffard, and Master John de Lamport, rector of Clavertone, of his diocese.

625. Edwardus, &c., Ballivis Henrici Comitis Lancastrie de Cruce Fracta, in parochia B. Marie atte Stronde extra barram Noui Templi Lohdon' salutem. Quia per commune consilium regni nostri provisum est quod quilibet liber homo qui sectam debet ad curiam domini sui libere possit facere attornatum suum ad sectam illam pro eo faciendam, vobis precipimus quod attornatum quem Radulphus episcopus Bathoniensis et Wellensis per literas suas patentes loco suo attornare voluerit ad sectam pro eo faciendam ad curiam predicti domini vestri de Cruce Fracta, &c., sine difficultate ad hoc recipiatis hac vice de gratia nostri speciali.

Teste me ipso apud Waltham, viij die Octobris anno regni nostri septimo.

We, Ralph, &c., have put in our place John Sellar, of London, to do suit for us at the court of Henry, Earl of Lancastre, of Cruce Fracta.

Evercrich, Friday next after the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, 7 Edw. iii.

626. Institution of Robert de Bere, priest, to the chapel of Speketon. Presented by Sir Robert Le Fizpayn, knight.

Banewell, 13 Dec., A.D. 1333.

Induction thereto by the Archdeacon of Wells.

627. Adam Tonge, rector of the church of St. Bride, London, Commissary of the Archdeacon of Bath, to Bishop Ralph.

I received your mandate within written. viij Id., Nov.

Cum nos secundum statuta, patrum diocesim nostram, &c., ceperimus nuper ex injuncto nobis officio visitare. Postea autem ex perspicuis indiciis et offerentibus se probabilibus conjecturis oculata fide perpendentes quod nonnulli iniquitatis fillii sue salutis et aliorum inmemores, peccatorum aliorum, et forsitan suorum indebite zelatores jurisdiccionem et officium nostrum circa predicta per quasdam simulatas, ymaginaciones, conspiraciones, pacciones, et convenciones illicitas, ac de iure dampnatas et reprobatas, nunc clam, nunc palam, effugere molliuntur ; quandoque per informaciones falsas, alios ne corrigenda seu reformanda detegant inducendo, citaciones, execuciones, et mandata nostra et nostrorum contumaciter negligendo, &c.

Orders their excommunication in the usual form.

Datum apud Blakeford die Commemorationis Animarum A.D. 1333. Which said mandate I have obeyed in all things and will in future obey it.

Bristol, Kal., Dec., A.D. above.

Under the same form it was written to all archdeacons and deans throughout the diocese.

628. The official of the Court of Canterbury *sede vacante* to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas in the matter of appeal between Sir Matthew de Valencenis, Archdeacon of Bath, appealing on the one part, and you on the other part, the appellant has not cared to prosecute his appeal, we have thought fit to dismiss you.

Day before Id., Nov., A.D. above.

Flo. 89. 629. xiij Kal., Jan., A.D. above, at Banewell, the lord conferred on Thomas Northoure, his bondtenant of Cheddre, the first tonsure.

630. vij Kal., Jan., year and place aforesaid. The lord granted to Egelina de Hampton that she can have divine service celebrated in a chamber in the manor-house of her manor of Baggeworth until Lent, before herself and her free family only.

631. iv Kal. of said month, at Banewell. The lord granted to John de Monteforti, rector of Combehanweye [Combe-hay] priest, that he can absent himself for a pilgrimage in the parts beyond the seas until the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist next.

632. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph.

By our letters patent, We have granted to our very dear clerk, Robert de Taunton, the prebend of Wyvelescomb in the church of St. Andrew, vacant by reason of the bishopric being in our hand. We command you that you cause a stall to be assigned to the same Robert.

Wodestoke, 16 June, in the 16th year of our reign.

Bishop Ralph to Masters Richard de Thisteldene, treasurer of Wells and Wibert de Luttleton, canon of the same church, reciting the preceding letters patent, commits his office therein to them to execute.

Ban[well], iv. Kal., Jan., A.D. above.

633. Omnibus Christi fidelibus, &c., Radulphus permissione divina, &c., salutem in Domino sempiternam, cartam Magistri Ellie de Sancto Albano, clerici, inspeximus in hec verba. Sciant presentes et futuri quod ego Elias de Sancto Albano persona ecclesie de Witheresfeld dedi concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Roberti Priori Bathonie et ejusdem loci Conuentui medietatem manerii de Tatewike cum omnibus suis ubique pertinentiis. Habendam et tenendam sibi et successoribus suis de capitalibus dominis feodi illius per servitia que ad illam pertinent inperpetuum. Et ad inveniendum duos capellanos unum videlicet monachum capellanum in ecclesia cathedrali prioratus predicti, et alium capellanum secularem in ecclesia de Coldashton et capella de Tatewike divina singulis diebus pro anima mea et anima Johannis de Sobbury clerici et antecessorum nostrorum et omnium fidelium defunctorum

celebraturi. Necnon ad solvendum viginti solidos singulis annis die anniversarii mei pro missis pro anima mea celebrandis. Et quinque solidos eodem die in distribucione pauperum in parochia de Coldashton, &c.

Hiis testibus . . . Alexandro de Hunsingoure, Thoma de Whittokesmede, Johanne Poul, Thoma de Clopcote. Willelmo Le Taillour de Ayshton et aliis.

Datum apud Tatewike die Lune proximo post festum sancti Barnabe Apostoli anno regni Edwardi tercii a conquesta sexto.

A copy of which charter we have caused to be registered in our register.

634. viij Id., Jan., at Banewell. Licence for Robert de la Dyche, rector of Telesforde, to be absent until the gules of August, to follow in the service of the lord John de Berkelegh.

635. vi Id., Jan., at Banewell. Licence for Robert, rector of Axebrugge, to study for two years at any university.

636. xii Jan. Licence for the subprioress and convent of Canyngton to elect a prioress on account of the vacancy by the resignation of the lady Matilda de Morton.

637. xii Kal., Feb. Institution of Thomas Slegh to the church of Kytinar', [Kitnor alias Culbone].

638. xiv Kal., Feb., at Banewell. Institution of John de Multon, chaplain, to the church of Legh Militis [Angers leigh] vacant by the resignation of William Fichet. Presented by John Aunger.

639. Same day, &c. Institution of Master John de Kynusham, clerk, to the church of Ubbelegh, to which he was presented by the abbot and convent of Keynesham.

640. Same day, &c. Licence for William de Hampton, rector of Baggeworth, to study for a year in England.

641. v Kal., Feb., at Banewell, A.D. above. Dominus concessit

Rectori ecclesie de Est Koker licenciam celebrare in Capella Conceptionis B. Virginis gloriose infra parochiam de Estkoker predicta sue diocesis situata usque festum Sancti Michaelis proximum futurum vel faciendum per alium capellanum suis sumptibus celebrari.

642. iii Kal., Feb., year and place above. Dominus concessit Rogero Le Guldene quod usque festum Sancti Michaelis proximum futurum in Capella de Wyke infra parochiam de Mellebourne sue diocesis per capellanum ydoneum suis sumptibus exhibendum, coram se uxore et libera sua familia, &c., divinum officium possit facere celebrari.

643. Same day and place. Institution of Roger Le Knight, priest, to the church of Erneshulle (Earnshill, near Langport), to which he was presented by the lady Isabella de Moun.

644. v Kal., Feb., place and year above. The lord dispensed with Thomas de Salteford, clerk, concerning illegitimacy.

645. viij Kal., same month. The lord dispensed with Peter Hardyng, acolyte, concerning the said defect.

646. 3 Feb., at Wells, A.D. above. The lord granted to Richard Katerine, of Wetlakyngton, clerk, letters dimissory to seek all minor and holy orders.

647. Bishop Ralph to the vicars of Welington and Cherde.

Capitulum de Welington ad diem Martis proximum post festum Sancti Gregorii proximum secuturum, ac Capitulum de Cherde ad diem Mercurii in crastino tunc sequente duximus proroganda.

Banewell, ix Kal., Feb., A.D. above.

648. The chapter of Wells to Bishop Ralph.

Quia decanatus ecclesie vestre Wellensis per consecrationem Fol. 90.
venerabilis viri domini Ricardi de Bury nuper Decani nostri in episcopum Dunelmensum vacare dinoscitur in presenti, vestre paternitati humiliter supplicamus, quatinus nobis ad quos tam de consuetudine quam de jure eligendi potestas dinos-

citur pertinere, eligendi potestas licenciam fauorabiliter tribuere, ac literas vestras patentes super ea concedere vestra dignetur paternitas si libeat reverenda.

Wells, Wednesday, the feast of the Purification of the B. Virgin Mary, A.D. abovesaid.

Bishop Ralph to the chapter of Wells.

Vobis ad quos electio ipsius Decani pertinere dinoscitur, eligendi licenciam concedere curaremus . . . Vobis eligendi Decanum licenciam concedimus per presentes.

Woky, iij Non., Feb., A.D. 1333[-4].

649. vi Id., Feb., A.D. above, at Claverton.

Institution of Master Thomas de Upton, sub-deacon, to the church of Trente, to which he was presented by the prior of Stodlegh, Sir Thomas West, and Thomas Chasteleyn.

Same day and place. The aforesaid Thomas had licence to be absent until Michaelmas next, and also letters dimissory to seek all holy orders.

650. Id., Feb., year and place aforesaid. The lord granted to brother John Goldston, of the B. Mary of Mount Carmel, Bristol, to preach, hear confessions and absolve.

651. 23 Feb., A.D. above.

Dominus concessit Johanne de la Ryuere quod in capella manerii sui de Wyke infra parochiam de Compton Dando per capellanum ydoneum, &c., possit facere celebrari divina donec illud duxerit revocandum.

652. Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos, &c. Hugo de Langebrugge, Adam de Chelleworth, et Johannes Otery, executores testamenti Ricardi de Welles, Burgensis Bristol', salutem in auctore salutis. Cum predictus Ricardus duas aulas cum Schopis adiacentibus et aliis pertinentiis suis quas emit de Johanne Tumberel situatas in suburbio ville Bristoll' in vico fullonnio in ultima voluntate sua in testamento suo pro una Cantaria in capella beati Thome Apostoli Bristoll' Bathon' diocesi pro anima ipsius Ricardi, ac animabus antecessorum suorum et omnium fidelium defunctorum perpetuo celebranda, ordinasset et legasset. Volentes ultimam volentatem dicti

Ricardi defuncti execucioni debite demandari ut tenemur, unanimi assensu et voluntate nostra concessimus et presenti scripto confirmavimus Majori ville Bristoll' et successoribus suis quod ad Cantariam, quocienscumque et quandocumque contigerit esse vacantem, ydoneum capellanum de consensu communitatis predicte ville Bristoll' venerabili in Christo patri Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo et successoribus suis episcopis qui pro tempore fuerint presentare. Ita quod dicti Major et successores sui qui pro tempore fuerint habeant plenum jus et potestatem inperpetuum ad prefatam Cantariam modo ut premittitur presentandi. Ratum et gratum habiturum inperpetuum quicquid predicti Major et successores sui in premissis duxerint faciendum. Volumus eciam et concedimus quod capellani qui ad predictam Cantariam rite admissi fuerint celebrandi, predictas duas aulas schopas et alia sua pertinencia quociens necesse fuerit per visum consideracionem et compulsionem Majoris villa Bristoll et successorum suorum qui pro tempore fuerint sufficienter teneantur emendare et imperpetuum sustenere et ad Cantariam predictam perpetuo debito modo celebrare.

In cuius rei testimonium sigilla nostra presentibus apposuimus.

Datum Bristoll, xxij die Februarii, anno regni regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum octauo.

Ratification by Bishop Ralph, of the foregoing deed.

Legh, near Bristol, v Kal., March, A.D. 1333 [-4].

653. ij Kal., March, at Chu, A.D. above. Dominus concessit Petro rectori ecclesie de Merschton, subdiacono, quod ad diaconatus et presbiteratus, Roberto, rectori ecclesie de Baudrip, et Johanne Sterre, de Blakeford diaconis, ad presbiteratus, ac Waltero atte Mulle de Comptonpancefot et Edmundo Balrich de Bradenye subdiaconis, ad diaconatus ordines a quocumque episcopo regni Anglie eo non obstante, &c., licite valeant promoueri: dumtamen, &c.

654. Eborard Le Fraunceys, Mayor of Bristol, to Bishop Ralph.

I present Sir Robert Le Chepman, of Fairforde, chaplain, to the perpetual chantry for the soul of Richard de Welles, &c., in the chapel of St. Thomas the Apostle, Bristol, vacant by the

death of Sir John de Milburne, chaplain, supplicating that you will think fit to institute the said Sir Robert.

Bristol, 24 Feb., A.D. 1333.

655. Pridie Kal., Marcii, anno Domini supra dicto, apud Clivedon, dominus concessit Andree de Brompton quod in capella manerii sui de Waltone in Gordano usque festum Pentecostes divina possit facere celebrari coram se et libera sua familia absque prejudicio ecclesie, &c.

656. 3 March, at Banewell.

Licence for Egelina de Hampton, to have divine services celebrated in the oratory of her manor of Baggeworth for a year.

Same day. Licence for Petronilla de Walton to have divine service celebrated in her chapel, which is in her manor house in the parish of Hemyngton until Michaelmas.

657. Commission to Master John de Norton, clerk of the diocese of Hereford, from Icherius de Concoreto as collector of the subsidy of the Holy Land.

London, 8 Feb., A.D. 1332.

658. Institution of Robert Le Chepman, of Fairford, priest, to the chantry of St. Thomas the Apostle, Bristol, for the soul of Richard de Welles.

Banewell, v Id., March, A.D. 1333.

659. xij Kal., April, at Banewell. Institution of Henry Toly, priest, to the church of Dunkertone, at the presentation of John de Pederton.

660. Same day and place. John, called, Le Barber, of Bristol, priest, was instituted to the vicarage of Were at the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, Bristol.

Fol. 91. 661. ix Kal., April, A.D. 1333, at Banewelle. Dominus archidiaconus Tauntonie demandavit ut Thomam de Londonio nuper rectorem ecclesie de Stoke Abbatis Sarum diocesis ex causa

permutationis per dominum Robertum Dei gratia Sarum episcopum, data sibi commissione primitus per dominum in hac parte, inter eundem Thomam de Londonio et Thomam Sley tunc rectorem de Kytenare huius diocesis rite facte, in corporalem possessionem dicte ecclesie de Kytenare cum suis juribus et pertinentiis induceret universis.

Hic mutatur data incipit annus Millesimus ccc [xxxiiij].

662. Octavo Kalend, dicti mensis, loco predicto, et anno extrascripto. Dominus commisit Mayistro Petro de Avebury, rectori ecclesie de Guissich [Gussage] Michaelis, Sarùm diocesis, ad examinandum inquisicionem factam per Archidiaconum Tauntonie aut eius officialem super vacacione ecclesie de Strengestone, sue Bathoniensis diocesis, ad quamquidem ecclesiam Minister et sodales de Kulve quemdam Thomam de Pikeslegh, clericum. presentarunt, &c., ipsumque Thomam ad dictam ecclesiam de Strengestone admittendum, et rectorem canonice instituendum in ea, &c. Quibus die, loco, et anno prefatus Petrus, &c., dictum Thomam de Pikeslegh ad ecclesiam de Strengestone prelibatam admisit, et rectorem canonice instituit in eadem, &c.

663. viij Id., April, A.D. above, at Woky. John de Strete, priest, was instituted to the church of Whethull at the presentation of Philip de Welleslegh.

664. Commission by Bishop Ralph to John, Bishop of Cichester, upon an exchange of benefices between John de Leech, rector of the church of Melles, diocese of Bath and Wells, and Sir Robert de Helpiston, Canon of Cichester and prebendary of the prebend of Waltham. Robert de Helpiston presented to the church of Melles by the abbot and convent of Glaston. Okstede, ix Kal., May, A.D. 1334.

665. Pridie Kalend, Maii, anno Domini supradicto, London'.
Dominus concessit Johanni de Chieu, rectori ecclesie de Saltford, sue diocesis, quod per unum annum posset insistere obsequiis domini W. de Rodenye militis. Proviso, &c., in forma communi.

666. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph to fulminate the sentence of greater excommunication against disturbers of the peace of the church, perjurers, &c., according to the petition of the commonalty of the kingdom in the Parliament last convoked at York.

Teste at Touecestre. 16 March, in the 8th year of our reign.

667. Thomas de Retford, the Chancellor, and the chapter of Wells to Bishop Ralph.

Vacante nuper Decanatu ecclesie predicte que est dignitas electiua in eadem, ac licenciâ futurum Decanum ejusdem ecclesie eligendi prout moris est a vobis petita primitus et obtenta, nos loco et termino competentibus ad hoc assignatis insimul congregati, et in dicto electionis negotio canonice procedere intendentes, nullo prorsus tractatu, nulla instigacione hominis precedente statim subito et repente, omnes unanimiter spiritus sancti gratia ut firmiter credimus inspirati, nullo penitus discrepante, in discretum virum Magistrum Wibertum de Lutleton Canonicum dicte Wellensis ecclesie virum utique providum et discretum, de legitimo matrimonio procreatum, et in sacerdotali ordine constitutum consensimus et eum incontinenti una voce et uno spiritu elegimus in Decanum ecclesie supradicte. Quocirca paternitatem vestram reverendam supplicitus requirimus et rogamus quatinus vestre dominacionis literas Subdecano ejusdem ecclesie super vocacione et proclamacione sicut convenit in ea parte faciendis dirigere et ulterius quod vestro incumbit officio peragere dignemini cum gratia et fauore. x Kal., May, A.D. 1334.

[Marginal note]. Nota quod petita licencia et optenta ab episcopo processum fuit ad electionem.

Fol. 92. 668. We, Ralph, by divine permission Bishop of Bath and Wells, by these presents do appoint Masters Robert de Wigornia, professor of civil law, and Roger Brikebeke, clerk, our proctors in the Roman court.

Okstede, 25 April, A.D. 1334.

669. Bishop Ralph to the subdean of Wells.

On the behalf of the chapter of our church aforesaid it is intimated to us that the chapter have elected Master Wibert de Lutleton as dean. We order you to proclaim that all who wish

to oppose the said election shall appear in the church abovesaid on Friday next after the feast of Holy Trinity next to come.

Dated at London.

670. Radulphus, &c., Magistro Johanni Martel, Officiali nostro salutem, &c. Ad audiendum et examinandum negotium et processum electionis nuper in Hospitali sancti Johannis de Bruggwater nostre diocesis, de fratre Johanne de Walsham, fratre dicti Hospitalis, in Magistrum Hospitalis eiusdem facte, et in eventum electionem de dicto fratre Johanne factam confirmandum vel eciam infirmandum et ulterius faciendum quod ipsius negotii qualitas exigit et natura, vobis tenore presentium committimus vices nostras cum cohercionis canonice potestate.

Datum apud Pukelchurch, quinto Idus Maii anno supradicto.

671. Bishop Ralph to Masters Wibert de Lutleton, dean elect of Wells, William de Lutleton, canon of the same church, and Ralph de Farnham, rector of the church of Corscomb, diocese of Sarum. Know that we have received the King's writ under the tenour which follows.

Edwardus, &c. Sciatis quod Elizabeth Crispyn in Curia nostra coram Justiciariis nostris apud Ebor peteret versus Walterum de Badeston manerium de Estroueton cum pertinentiis ut jus et hereditatem suam de seisina cujusdam Johanne que fuit uxor Willelmi Crispyn avie ipsius Elizabet cujus heredem propinquiorem eadem Elizabeth se asserebat, idem Walterum venit in eadem Curia nostra et objecit predicte Elisabethe quod ipsa nullius heres esse potest eo quod bastarda est. Et quia hujusmodi cause cognitio ad forum spectat ecclesiasticum, vobis mandamus quod convocatis coram vobis in hac parte convocandis, rei veritatem super hoc diligenter inquiratis. Et quid inde inquisieritis, constare faciatis Justiciariis nostris apud Ebor per literas vestras patentes, et habeatis ibi hoc breve. Teste W. de Herle, apud Ebor' vicesimo sexto die Aprilis, anno regni nostri octauo.

We being hindered by various and arduous affairs commit our office to you to enquire if the said Elizabeth is a bastard.

Puk[elchurch] iv Id., May., A.D. 1334.

Fol. 92b. 672. Same day, &c. Institution of Walter de Troubrugge priest, to the vicarage of Stoclonde, to which he was presented by the Master and Brethren of the House of St. Mark the Evangelist near Bristol.

673. Non., Maii, anno Domini supradicto, dominus manumisit Walterum filium Willelmi le Carpenter de Pukelchurch, nativum suum, ad instanciam domini Petri Corbet militis. Ita quod dictus Walterus scolas excerceat, ed ad sacros ordines se faciat promoveri.

674. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Wells or his official ordering execution of the King's writ dated at Toucester. 16 March, 8 Edw. iii, against disturbers of the peace of the church, &c., in the following manner.

In omnibus et singulis ecclesiis collegiatis et parochiis infra ambitum vestri archidiaconatus quomodolibet constitutis eciam si ab archidiaconali jurisdictione forsitan sint exempti ipsarum ecclesiarum collegiatarum sex vel octo senioribus et dignoribus ac ecclesiarum parochialium omnibus in ipsis ecclesiis sacerdotibus albis et stolis indutis candelas accensas in manibus suis gestantibus omnes et singulos predictos presumptores seu malefactores qui sententiam excommunicationis majoris ipso facto latam a sanctis patribus incurrere dinoscuntur singulis diebus dominicis et festis duplicibus per annum intra missarum solempnia pulsatis campanis, cruce erecta, candelis predictis extinctis, in terramque projectis, et in eorum vituperium pedibus conculcatis, excommunicatos publice et solempniter muncietis seu sic faciatis per alios nunciari.

Woky, xiv Kal., June, A.D. 1333.

Fol. 93. 675. xiij Kal., June, A.D. above, at Woky. Letters dimissory for William Hogheles, of Northcatebury, subdeacon, and John Mollyns, of Monteacute, deacon, to seek the order of priest.

676. xi Kal., June, year and place aforesaid. Dominus concessit Abbati de Clyve quod ecclesiam de Estcamel monasterio de Clive ut asseruit appropriatam per triennium proximum futurum alicui persone ydonie tradere possit, ad firmam. Proviso, &c.

677. Notum sit omnibus quod nos Radulphus, &c., tradidimus et concessimus Waltero de Rodenye, militi, duodecim acras terre cum pertinentiis in Dynre, quamquidem terram Johannes Le Toukere de Corscumb de nobis tenuit qui bastardus fuit et inde obiit seisitus sine herede de se. Habendas et tenendas dicto Waltero et heredibus suis de corpore suo legittime procreatis de nobis et successoribus nostris inperpetuum Reddendo inde annuatim nobis et successoribus nostris unam rosam in festo Natiuitatis sancti Johannis Baptisti pro omni servicio ad nos vel successores nostros pertinente. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi.

Hiis testibus. Dominis Johanne de Sancto Laudo. Johanne de Paltone. Philippo de Welleslegh. Walkelino Toucre. Rogero de le Walle et aliis.

Datum apud Blakeford, die Iouis proximo post festum Sancte Petronille Virginis, anno regni regis Edwardii tercii post conquestum, octauo.

678. Pridie Non., Junii, A.D. above, at Blakeford. Institution of William de Becco alias de Monte, deacon, to the vicarage of Wollavyngtone, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Goldcliff.

679. We, Ralph, &c., having seen the apostolic bulls and processes concerning a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Wyvelescomb by which it appears that they are provided for a certain Isuard Gascy, on the 26th day of May, A.D. 1334, do admit the same Isuard in the person of John Philip, his proxy. At Woky, in the lord's chapel there. Present Master Peter de Avebury, public notary.

680. Radulphus, &c., dilecto nobiis in Christo Laurencio Skirel de Axebridge, nostre diocesis, diacono, salutem, &c. Cantariam nostram per Magistrum Robertum de Wamberge tunc archidiaconum Wellensem in ecclesia nostra cathedrali Wellensi nuper factam et fundatam, per mortem domini Nicholai Cruke de Erchesfont presbiteri, vacantem, et ad nostram collationem pleno jure spectantem, tibi conferimus intuitu caritatis, tecum ex certa scientia dispensantes licet nondum

fueris in presbiterum ordinatus. Dumtamen proximis ordinibus te facias ad sacerdotium promoveri, et in dicta Cantaria per substitutum ydoneum interim ministrari.

Datum apud Jattone, xvij Kal., Julii, anno Domini millesimo, ccc^mo^ xxxiij^to^ et nostre consecrationis quinto.

681. xiij Kal., July, A.D. above, at Jattone. Institution of Edmund de Merland, acolyte, to the church of Lullyngtone. Presented by the prior and convent of Langelete.

682. Eisdem die et loco dominus concessit Elizabethe uxori Johannis de Ken quod ab illo die per sex septimanas sequentes in camera sua de Ken coram se et libera sua familia, &c., per capellanum ydoneum erecta tabula lignea, appositoque superaltari; omnibus aliis concurrentibus que in hac parte canonice requiruntur, divina possit facere licite celebrari.

683. xij Kal., July, A.D. above, at Blakeford. The lord granted to Nicholas Trivet, rector of Ieueltone, that he can let his church to farm to Master Stephen de la Haye, rector of Dichesghete, for two years.

684. The dean of Poulet to Bishop Ralph. I received your mandate under the tenour which follows.

Ralph, &c., to the dean of Poulet. Because the fruits of the church of Wollauyngtone sequestrated for certain causes cannot be kept longer, we order you that, in order that the worth of those fruits may be saved to us for repairs of the houses, &c., having taken sufficient security, you take care to relax the said sequestration.

Puk[lechurch], Non., May, A.D. 1334.

By authority of which I have relaxed the sequestration to William de Arches. The worth of all the fruits is, 10 quarters of wheat, price 60*s.* and 7 bushels of beans, price 2*s.* 5*d.*

685. vij Kal., July, A.D. above, at Blakeford. The lord admitted Hugh Sanzavoir, acolyte, to the cured chapel of Spartegraue at the presentation of Sir Ralph Sanzavoir. And on the same day he had letters dimissory to all holy orders. He also had licence

to stay in the school at Cichestre or elsewhere *extra universitatem* for a year.

686. Bishop Ralph to Masters Wibert de Lutleton and William de Lutleton, canons of Wells. Fol. 94.

The petition of Nicholas Le Wallessch and John Rischford, pretending to be kinsmen and next heirs of Joan who was the wife of William Crispyn, exhibited to us, contained that, whereas we to whom it is committed to enquire if the said Elizabeth Crispyn be a bastard or not, had committed our offices to you with some other articles, you proceeding by virtue of your commission between the said Elizabeth, plaintiff, and a certain Walter de Badeston, defendant.

"Licet pars dictorum Nicholai et Johannis coram vobis congruis loco et tempore in judicio sufficienter comparuisset et allegasset et proposuisset quod dicti Nicholaus et Johannes sunt et fuerunt consanguinei in proxima linea consanguinitatis sepedictam Johannem attingentes, ac propinquiores heredes Johanne que fuit uxor Willelmi Crispyn avie supradicte Elizabetha: quodque eadem Elizabetha fuit et est bastarda et non legitima et in adulterio procreata et edita et pro tali bastarda auctoritate apostolica et legitima finaliter et sententialiter pronunciata et declarata. Que sententia jam diu in rem transiit judicatam. Unde prefata Elizabetha heres sepedicte Johanne avie sue propinquax de jure scripto ac regni Anglie esse nec dici potuit; quodque manerium de Estroueton cum suis pertinentiis ex parte ejusdem Elizabeth in Cura domini Regis Anglie versus Walterum de Badeston petitum et cetere partes hereditatis predicte ipsis Nicholao et Johanni ratione propinquitatis sanguinis et consanguitatis in hac parte de jure regni Anglie tunc temporis debebantur et adhuc debentur et non prefate Elizabethe ut dicunt ac pretendunt, et se falso modo. Necnon quod timor fuit et est, ac verisimiliter timebatur tunc temporis et adhuc timetur hucusque continue de collusione inter Elizabeth et Walterum de Badeston antedictos in dicto bastardie negotio, presertim cum idem Walterus percipiat habuit et habeat ex convencione ac pacto pro parte prefate Elizabethe cum eodem Waltero ante inchoacionem supradicti negocii bastardie initis ducentas libras sterlingorum ut collusorie

promitteret ipsam Elizabetham in sepedicto negotio legitimam et non bastardam pronunciare."

And for these and other causes the same party alleged that he should be present at the defence of the said matter with the said Walter, or at least to assist the same Walter lest there might be collusion, &c. You nevertheless have not taken care to hear the said party. Wherefore there was appeal to our hearing. We inhibit you, and by you Elizabeth Crispyn and Walter Badeston, that they do not cause prejudice pending such appeal before us. Moreover cite the said Elizabeth and Walter to appear before us or our commissary on Monday next after the feast of the Translation of St. Thomas the Martyr now next to come in our cathedral church of Wells to answer.

Dated, &c.

Bishop Ralph to Masters Roger de Mortuo Mari, archdeacon of Wells, Lawrence de la Barre, canon of Wells, and Walter de Hulle, rector of the church of Scheptone Belli Campi, appointing them commissioners to hear the appeal in the foregoing matter.

Dunsterre, iij Non., July, A.D. 1334.

687. 6 July, A.D. above, at Dunsterre. The lord, at the instance of the lady Sybil de Mohun, granted to Robert, rector of Kokelyngton, that he can follow in the service of the said lady for a year.

688. Eisdem die loco et anno dominus concessit Johanni Le Bret quod in oratorio suo apud Thorncomb, in parochia de Bikenalre, Johanne de Ralee quod in oratorio suo apud Roudone, in parochia de Stokegoumer, ac Johanni de Lodehiwissch quod in oratorio suo apud Hiwyssch, in parochia de Netelcomb. coram se et eorum liberis familiis per capellanos ydoneos, &c., possint facere celebrari divina, licencias speciales, &c. Prefatis licenciis pro dicta Johanna per biennium, ac Johanne Le Bret per unum annum, et Johanne Lodeh[iwisseh] per unum annum tantum modo duraturis.

689. xiv Kal., Aug., A.D. above, at Blakeford. Institution of Richard Nony, of Hanyngdone, priest, to the church of Orchardeslegh at the presentation of Henry de Merland.

Same day, &c. Institution of Robert de Schapwike, priest, to the church of Stokelynche, vacant by the free resignation of Ralph, the last rector. Presented by Sir John de Bello Campo, of Somerset, knight.

690. Same day, &c. The Bishop confirmed the election of brother John de Somertone as abbot of Muchelnye.

691. Universis ad quos presentes litere peruenerint, Laurencius prepositus libere capelle beati Nicholai de Stoke sub Hamedone et sodales sui salutem. Noueritis nos unanimi assensu nostro dedisse et concessisse domino Radulpho, nuper rectori ecclesie de Stokelinche, unum album panem ponderis sexaginta solidorum et unam lagenam cervisie et unum ferculum de coquina nostra singulis diebus, unamque robam de secta nostra vel viginti solidos sterlingorum pro roba, ac sex solidos et octa denarios pro caligis et linea tela singulis annis percipiendis de nobis et successoribus nostris ad totam vitam Radulphi supradicti, &c. Fol. 95.

Datum apud Stoke sub Hamedon, xxiij die mensis Julii, anno regni regis Edwardi tercii post conquestum, octauo.

692. 4 Aug., A.D. 1334. Sir Robert de la Lee, late rector of the church of Mynstreworthe, diocese of Hereford, before Bishop Ralph, in the hall of his manor of Blakeforde, caused to be presented to the same bishop a letter of inquisition to the vicarage of the church of Souweye to which he was presented by reason of exchange with Sir Henry Petlynge, vicar of the same vicarage, for the church of Mynistreworthe, and the bishop instituted the same Sir Robert to the vicarage of Souweye aforesaid. Present, Masters John de Middelton, Henry de Petlynge, Peter de Avebury, Thomas de Aissche, clerks of the said lord bishop.

Which day, &c. The same father instituted Master Henry de Petlynge, priest, late vicar of Sowy, to the church of Menstreworth, diocese of Hereford.

Thomas, bishop of Hereford, to Bishop Ralph. Henry de Petlynge, vicar of Sowy, of your diocese, and Robert de la

Lee, rector of Menstreworth, of our diocese, propose to exchange their benefices. We commit to you our offices.

Bosebury, 25 July, A.D. 1334.

693. Edward par la grace de Dieu Roi Dengleterre, &c., a l'onurable piere en dieu par la mesme grace Euesqe de Baa et de Welles, salutz. Purceqe nous volons par aucune cause estre certefiez queux benefiz de seinte eglise aliens occupent deinz vostre diocese, cestassauoir de Ercedeaknes, priourtiez, preuendres, eglises, chapelles, hospitalx, porcions, enpensions, ou autres benefiz quecomqes, et coment, et par queu title ils ensont avenuz et de la verroie value de chescun des ditz benefiz, et des nouns des possessours dyceux : vous mandons et chargeons en la foi et la ligeance qe vous nous devez, qe ceste chose pleinement enquise, nous enfacez distinctement et apertement certefier a nostre prochein Parlement. Et ce en nulle manere ne lessez. Done souz nostre prive seal a Wyndesore, le tierz jour d'auguste. Lan de nostre regne, oytisme.

694. xiij Id., Aug., A.D. 1334, at Blakeford. Institution of Master William de Langeburgh, acolyte, to the cured chapel of Stanrewike, to which he was presented by the abbot and convent of Cirencestre.

695. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Wells or his official, or the commissary of either of them.

By the letters of King Edward lately received it is ordered us to certify him concerning the ecclesiastical benefices occupied by aliens. We order you to enquire and certify us by your letters patent.

Blakeford, Id., Aug., A.D. above.

In like manner it was written to the archdeacons of Taunton and Bath, also to the warder of the jurisdiction of Glaston, and to the chancellor and chapter of Wells for the jurisdiction of the dean of Wells.

696. The official of the court of Canterbury to the abbot of Athelingnye and the dean of Taunton.

The petition of brother Godfry, prior of Stokekurcy, exhibited

to us contained that, although the said Godfrey possessed the said priory,

"Ipsumque sic assecutum per non modica tempora possedisset pacifice et quiete, fuissetque ex parte ipsius in possessione hujusmodi existentis, metuentis ex quibusdam causis probabilibus et verissimilibus conjecturis sibi et prioratui suo graue posse generari prejudicium infuturum; ne quis in ipsius aut dicti prioratus sui prejudicium quicquam attemptaret seu faceret attemptari, ad sedem apostolicam et pro tuitione Curie Cantuariensis palam et publice legitime provocatum. Tamen venerabilis pater dominus Radulphus Dei gratia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus dicta prouocacione que ipsum verissimiliter non latuit non obstante, post et contra eam prefatum Godefridum super dilapidacione bonorum dicti prioratus ac aliis articulis privacionem suam a prioratu antedicto concernentibus et occasione premissorum coram dicto patre suisve commissariis ad locum incertum et ad terminum nimis brevem et peremptorie nulla hujusmodi abbreviacionis causa in citatorio suo sufficienter expressa, mandavit et fecit ad judicium evocari, Magistri etiam Petrus de Avebury, Thomas de Codeworth, Johannes de Miltone et Stephanus Trippe pretendentes se dicti patris Commissarios generales ipsum Godefridum super premissis coram dicto patre suisve Commissariis fuisse legitime citatum cum non esset, et contumaciam contraxisse cum nullam contraherat contra justiciam confingentes dicta provocacione que ipsos verissimiliter non latuit non obstante: post et contra eam ratione hujusmodi conficte contumacie in ipsum non citatum non monitum non confessum. non convictum, absentem non per contumaciam absque causa racionabili et contra statuta concilii generalis sententiam majoris excommunicationis fulminarunt injuste; dictusque pater hujusmodi sententiam ipsius auctoritate latam et fulminatam ratam habens pariter et acceptam, ipsum mandauit et fecit sic excommunicatum fuisse et esse publice nunciari, in ipsius Godefridi prejudicium non modicum et grauamen. Unde ex parte ipsius sencientis se ex hiis et eorum quolibet indebite pregravari, ad dictas sedem et Curiam legitime extitet appellatum."

Wherefore we order that you take care to inhibit the said venerable father and his commissaries aforesaid that they do

not attempt prejudice pending such matter of appeal. Do you also cite the said venerable father and commissaries to appear before us in the church of the B. Mary, of Aldermari-church, London, on the 7th judicial day after the feast of St. Faith the Virgin.

London, vii Id., Aug., A.D. 1334.

697. Ralph, &c., to all the sons of the holy mother church, &c. Fol. 96. Know ye that we have inspected the letters, &c., under the tenour which follows.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus presentes literas inspecturis, Thomas permissione diuina prior ecclesie cathedralis Bathonie et ejusdem loci Conventus salutem eternam in Domino. Noveritis nos unanimi assensu et voluntate concessisse fratri Roberte de Suttone monacho domus nostre prioratum nostrum de Dunsterre pro libito nostro et suo gubernandum. Concessimus etiam eidem in augmentationem status et honoris sui quolibet anno viginti libras sterlingorum percipiendorum, &c. Concessimus etiam eidem, quod possit habere secum socios sibi complacentes quos procurare poterit; et si aliquis sociorum apud Dunsterre mutatur, qui sibi placere non poterit aut inquietus fuerit, volumus quod cum idem frater Robertus hoc domino priori liberatorie denunciet statim in fine termini proximi sequentis domum revocetur, et alius magis quietus et maturus loci sui subrogetur, &c.

Datum in domo nostra capitulari Bathonie in crastino beati Michaelis scilicet in festo sancti Jerommi anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ xxxij^do^.

We, Ralph, &c., give our assent to the grant of the said prior and convent.

Blak[eford], Id., Aug., A.D. 1334.

698. Universis pateat per presentes quod nos Radulphus, &c., nostram diocesim et archidiaconatum Tantonensem ejusdem diocesis actualiter visitantes, nuper magistrum Symonem de Farweye clericum Officialis domini archidiaconi Tantonensis Commissarium super quibusdam injuste attemptatis contra visitationem nostram hujusmodi ut in convocando et celebrando capitula, correctiones facienda, &c. Idem magister Symon

tanquam filius humilitatis nostre ordinacioni super premissis effectualiter se submisit, et eidem ordinationi nostre paruit humiliter ut dicebat. Unde prefatum Symonem quo ad omnia premissa de quibus ut premittitur extitit irretitus, ab officio nostro in pace dimisimus per decretum. In cujus rei testimonium, &c.

Datum apud, Blakeford, vij Kalend., Sept., anno Domini supradicto.

699. Same day, &c. The lord granted letters dimissory for Lawrence Squirel, of Axebridge, deacon, to seek the order of priest.

700. v. Kal., Sept., A.D. above, at Blakeford. Institution of Roger Golde, of Scheftone, priest, to the vicarage of Southpertone, to which he was presented by the prior and convent of Bryuton.

701. 1st Sept., at Clavertone. Dominus commisit custodiam omnium bonorum spectancium ad domum Albe Aule Ivelcestre, que quidem bona certis de causis idem dominus duxerat sequestranda, de Lymyngton et sancti Johannis Ivelcestrie ecclesiarum rectoribus, ut illi ſororibus et ministris ejusdem domus dumtaxat vite necessaria ministrarent, donec super hoc haberent aliud in mandatis.

702. Same day, &c. The lord granted to Thomas, son of Reginald de Claverton, acolyte, that he may be promoted to all holy orders.

703. Bishop Ralph to John, archbishop of Canterbury.

We constitute our clerks John de Karleton, and John de Middleton our proxies to appear before you or your commissary in the church of St. Paul, London, on Monday next after the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle and Evangelist, to treat concerning some competent aid to be granted to our lord, the King.

London, xi Kal., Oct., A.D. 1334.

704. Raufe par la suffrance de Dieu Euesqe de Baa et de Welles, a touz nos Baillifs, Provotz et autres Ministres qi cestes Fol. 97.

lettres verount, oue la beneisson Dieu et la nostre saluz. Come nous eoms fait ordeinez et establiz nostre cher et foial monsieur Wauter de Rodeneye chiualer nostre Seneschal de toutes noz terres estantes deinz les Countees de Somersete et Gloucestre issint qil face toutes choses apurtenantes a cel office profaire, vous manndoms qe au dit Wauter de Rodeneye es choses touchantes nostre dite Seneschaucie soiez eidantz, &c. Donne a Londres le xxv iour de Septembre L'an du regne le Roi Edward tierz puis le conqueste, oytisme et de nostre sacre, sysme.

705. vij Kal., Oct., A.D. above, at London. Licence for Thomas de Dumberdale, rector of the church of Comptone Pauncefot, priest, to stay in the service of the abbess of Wyltone for a year.

Same day, &c. Licence for Sir Robert Pyl, portionary in the church of Crukern, to stay in the service of Sir Hugh de Courtenay, knight, for a year.

Same day. The rector of Hardyngtone had a like licence to stay in the service of the said lord, to last until Easter next.

706. Bishop Ralph to Masters Walter de Burtone, canon of Wells, Peter de Avebury, rector of Guyssich, diocese of Sarum, and Thomas de Aissch, rector of Cherleton Makerel.

Ad cognoscendum in forma juris in quibuscumque causis et negociis ad nostram spiritualem jurisdictionem qualitercumque spectantibus tam ex officio nostro quam ad partium instancias quarumcumque, &c., committimus vices nostras cum cujus-eumque cohercionis canonice potestate.

Datum apud Banewelle, vi. Idus, Marcii, anno Domini mil-lesimo ccc^mo^ xxxiij.

707. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

We have received the complaint of Sir John de Burford, priest of your diocese, containing that, although the same Sir John was presented to the vicarage of the church of Burnham, you, never-theless, did not take care to enquire concerning the vacancy of the said vicarage and do the other things which are incumbent to your office. Wherefore the same Sir John has prayed for a

remedy to be provided. We therefore order that you do justice to the said John within the space of eight days, otherwise we cite you to appear before us or our commissary on the twentieth day after the lapse of the said eight days, if it be a judicial day, and if it be not, on the next judicial day following.
London, vi Kal., Oct., A.D. 1334.

708. 20 Oct., A.D. above, at Mulleburne. Letters dimissory for John Stote of Hengestrigge, clerk, to seek all minor orders.

709. vij Kal., Nov., A.D. above, at Cherde. Institution of John Le Mascon, priest, to the church of Estcapellonde [Capeland united to Beer Crocombe] to which he was presented by Sir Walter de Meriet.

710. On the aforesaid day, &c. Institution of Reginald de Buggewelle, acolyte, to the church of Wydecomb, vacant by the free resignation of Henry Percehaye, to which he was presented by Sir Walter Meriet.
The said Reginald, the said day and year, had letters dimissory to seek the order of subdeacon.
Also licence to study for a year in England.

711. iii Kal., Nov., A.D. above, at Buddeclegh. Licence for Sir Thomas Bouy, rector of Blakedone, priest, to be absent till the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula next.

712. Bishop Ralph to the King's justices.
Inquisicionem fieri fecimus diligentem, et dictam Elizabetham Crispyn legitimam et non bastardam invenimus per eundem.
Dogmersfeld, 13 Oct., A.D. above.

713. About the 5th day of October, A.D. 1334, at Dogmeres- Fol. 98.
felde. Licence for John de Bourne, rector of the church of Wrytelyngton, deacon, to study for a year.

714. 21 Oct., A.D. above, at Estkoker. Licence for Thomas Le Whyte, rector of Camelegh, subdeacon to study for two years in England.

715. 1 Nov., A.D. above, at Kyngesbury. The lord, of his special grace, granted to Sir John de Fienles, lord of Mertoke.

that he can have divine services celebrated in his chapel of Mertoke by a fit chaplain.

716. xii Kal., Oct., A.D. above at London. Letters dimissory for Master John de Keynesham, rector of Ubbelegh, deacon, to seek the order of priest.

717. xi Kal., Oct., A.D. above. Letters dimissory for Master John Forman, subdeacon, to seek the order of deacon.

718. ix Kal., Nov., A.D. above, at Cherde. Dominus concessit Unfrido de Keel ut in capella sua de Walterescomb infra parochiam de Cherde sue diocesis per unum annum, &c., diuina posset facere celebrari.

719. Bishop Ralph to all, &c. Know ye that John de Risyngdone, rector of the church of Ieuele, of our diocese, has well and faithfully rendered to us his account for the whole time which he served us until the 23rd day of Oct. past, &c.
Wyvelescomb, 14 Nov., A.D. 1334.

720. Bishop Ralph to Masters John de Bryuton and John Martel, canons of Wells.
The chapter of Wells have presented John de Burford, priest, to the vicarage of Burnham. We commit to you our offices to do justice and institute him if the appropriation, first being exhibited before you, appears canonical.
Northcory, 6 Nov., A.D. above.

721. Same day, &c. The lord granted to Masters Wibert and Willaim de Lutleton that they can celebrate divine services in the chapel of St. James, of Lutletone, in the parish of Weluwe.

722. Bishop Ralph to Master Walter de Burtone, canon of Wells.
Cum igitur Subdecanatus ecclesie nostre predicte per mortem Magistri Walteri Broun ultimi Subdecani in ecclesia antedicta vacare libere jam noscatar, nos premissis de tua persona digna racione pensatis, eundem Subdecanatum . . . tibi cum suis juribus et pertinenciis uniuersis tenore presencium conferimus, &c
Taunton, 8 Nov., A.D. 1334.

723. John de Bryutone and John Martel to Bishop Ralph.
We have received your mandate as on the first side of the folio is more fully contained [719].

Having seen all rights, muniments and other things concerning the said appropriation, it appeared to us that the appropriation was and is just, and we decree that the said John is admitted to the said vicarage, and we do institute him perpetual vicar in the same.

Wells, xiv Kal., Nov., A.D. above.

724. 20 Nov., A.D. above, at Wyvelescomb. The lord granted Fol. 99. to Robert Seyncler that he can have divine services celebrated in his chapel of Stapeltone, in the parish of Mertoke.

725. Same day, &c. Letters dimissory for John Atte Walle of Bath, acolyte, to seek all holy orders.

726. 21 Nov., A.D. above, at Wyvelescomb. The lord granted to Sir Richard Cogan, knight, that he may have divine services in his chapel of Honyspille until Michaelmas.

727. Bishop Ralph to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer.
We received the King's writ tested at York 24 Oct., 8 Edw. iii, ordering us to elect fit men to collect the tenth granted by the prelates and clergy of the province of Canterbury.

We have assigned Walter, prior of Bryuton and Ralph, prior of Taunton, to levy the tenth in our diocese.

Wyvelescomb, 7 Dec., A.D. 1334.

728. 4 Dec., A.D. above at Wyvelescomb. The lord admitted Sir Peter de Berkele, priest, late canon and prebendary in the collegiate church of the B. Thomas the Martyr, of Glasneye, diocese of Exeter, to the church of Dungate, of his diocese, vacant by reason of exchange with Master Thomas de Uptone, rector of the same church, for the canonry and prebend which the said Peter held in the said collegiate church, and instituted the said Peter as rector Same day the lord by authority of the bishop of Exeter conferred the said canonry and prebend vacant by the resignation of the said Sir Peter on the said Master Thomas.

Commission by John, bishop of Exeter, for Bishop Ralph concerning the said exchange between Peter de Berkeleye and Thomas de Uptone.

In our manor of Chuddel', 21 Nov., A.D. 1334.

729. ix Kal., Jan., A.D. above, at Wyvel[scomb]. Dominus concessit Willelmo Coker sue diocesis infirmo quod durante infirmitate qua tunc detentus erat possit in capella siue oratorio suo apud Coker juxta Brugg' dicte sue diocesis absque prejudicio matricis ecclesio divina facere celebrari per capellanum ydoneum, &c.

730. Same day, &c. Institution of Henry Russel, of Fouhope, deacon, presented by Sir Thomas, Lord de Berkele, to the church of Breon, vacant by the free resignation of Sir William de Styntescomb.

731. On the aforesaid day, &c. Licence for William de Beare, rector of the church of Hornblouton, subdeacon, to study in England.

732. iij Kal., Jan., A.D. above. The lord granted to Sir John de Westmancote, rector of Strete, priest, that he can follow in the service of R. bishop of Durham, for three years, or study in England.

733. iii Non., Jan., year and place aforesaid. Institution of Walter Dyngon, of Marleberghe, priest, to the church of Dungate, vacant by the free resignation of Sir Peter de Berkele, to which he was presented by the lord William de Montacute.

Fol. 100. 734. The dean of Mary de Arcubus, London, official of the court of Canterbury and commissary general, to Bishop Ralph. Cum nos in tuitori 'appellationis negotio quod in dicta curia vertebatur inter fratrem Godefridum Priorem prioratus de Stokecurcy votre diocesis partem appellantem ex parte una, et vos ac Magistros Petrum de Auebur', Thomam de Codeworth, Johannem de Milton, et Stephanum Tryp commissarios vestros generales pretensos partem appellatam ex altera legitime procedentes, vos et dictos Commissarios vestros partem ut

permittitur appellatam, eo quod pars appellans predicta appellationem suam prefate Curie in hac parte suggestam prout debuit non probauit, ab examine dicte Curie dimiserimus justicia suadente ; paternitati vestre tenore presencium intimamus quod inhibicione quacumque sub data London' vij. Idus Augusti anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ xxxiiij^to^ a dicta Curia in hac parte inpetrata et discreto viro Abbati de Athelneye ac Decano de Tantonia directa non obstante, libere poteritis exequi quod est vestrum, et dicti Commissarii vestri facere quod est suum.

735. viii Id., Jan., A.D, above at Wyvelescomb. Institution of Sir John de Messyngham, priest, to the vicarage of the church of Kynmeresdone, to which he was presented by brother Leonard Tiberte, prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England.

Also same date. Institution of Sir Gilbert de Gothull, priest, to the vicarage of Muleburne, to which he was presented by the abbot and convent of Cirencestre.

736. Radulphus, &c., dilecto nobis in Christo Laurencio Sqyrel de Axebrugge presbitero, salutem, &c. Cantariam nostram per Magistrum Robertum de Wamberge tunc archidiaconum Wellensem in ecclesia nostra cathedrali Wellie, nuper factam et fundatam per mortem domini. Nicholai Cruk de Erchesfont presbiteri vacantem et ad nostram collacionem pleno iure spectantem, tibi conferimus intuitu caritatis. Jure dignitate, &c. In cujus rei testimonium, &c.

Datum apud Wyvelescomb pridie Idus Nouembris anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ xxxiiij^to^ et noster consecrationis sexto.

737. A treshonurable et noble Roi son seignur lige si lui plest sire Edward par la grace de Dieu Roi Dengleterre Seignur dirlaunde et Ducs D'aquitaine, Rauf par la mesme suffrance euesqe de Baa et de Welles, obeissaunce due oue quanqil siet et poet d'onurs et reuerences.

Tresnoble seignur de ce qe vous nous auez requis par voz honurables lettres qe nous ne feissoms rien en prejudice de la provision de vostre cher Clerc sire Wauter de Loundres a qi nostra seignur le Pape, qi mort est, avoit graunte la Deanee

de Welles. Vueillez seignur si vos plest entendre qe a voz commaundementz en ceste chose et toutes autres come nous sums tenuz serrons touziours obeissauntz, et herroms mouldt trescher sire de faire chose qe puisse turnir en prejudice de la prouision vostre dit Clerc, ou en desturbaunce de son auancement a noster poer. A seur gouernail de vostre Roialme, Dieu vous sauve et vous doigne bone vie et longe. Escrit a Wyvelescombe, le xx jour de Janvier.

738. viij Kal., Feb., A.D. above at Wyuelescomb. Letters dimissory for Richard, son of Richard Clerk (clericus) of Bath, acolyte, to all holy orders.

739. Commission by Bishop Ralph for Thomas de Retforde, chancellor of Wells, and William de Modeford, rector of the church of Tyntenhulle, to hear and determine all causes and matters which Walter de Hulle, rector of Schepton Belli Campi, shall move against any persons of the diocese.

Wyvelescomb, v Kal., Feb., A.D. 1334.

740. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

We have received the complaint of Master Wybert de Luttelton, canon of Wells, containing that whereas the same Wybert was elected dean you committed your office to examine the matter of the said election to Master John Martel and before the final issue of the matter you revoked the said commission. We order you that you bring the matter to a due end within ten days, otherwise we cite you to appear before us on the tenth day after the lapse of the said ten days.

Chercham, Non., Feb., A.D. 1334.

Bishop Ralph to the official of the court of Canterbury.

Mandatum vestrum xiiij die Februarii recepimus tenore continens infrascriptum. Venerabili, &c. Verumque dicto negocio tam arduo ex causis legitimis impediti infra tempus in ipso mandato contentum non potuimus finem debitum imponere ut mandastis parati erimus quatenus tenemur ad comparendum et ulterius faciendum in omnibus prout tenor vestri mandati exigit et requirit.

741. John, bishop of Exeter, to Bishop Ralph.

Ut quoscumque clericos ad quoscumque ordines tam majores quam minores ubilibet in nostra diocese ordinare ac primam tonsuram pueris quos ad hoc elegeritis Deo dignos indifferenter conferre ecclesiasque, cimiteria et altaria quecumque nostre diocesis ubi necesse fuerit dedicare et reconciliare, necnon quorumcumque subditorum nostrorum crimina et excessus corrigere et punire, ac omnia alia et singula in dicta nostra diocesi facere valeatis et excercere in transitu vestro ad Montem sancti Michaelis in Cornubia eundo uidelicet et redeundo, que nos facere possemus si personaliter interessemus, vestre paternitati reuerende vices nunc committimus, &c.

In our manor of Chuddeslegh, 15 Feb., A.D. 1334.

742. Potestas attributa episcopis Bathonie ad conferendam cantariam sub certa forma, jure deuoluto. Fol. 101.

Universis Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit Willelmus [Bytton] miseracione divina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus salutem in Domino sempiternam. Cum dilectus in Christo filius dominus Johannes de Auf̃ [Aller] sperans promeritus reportare pro sua et Agnetsi quondam uxorę sue patris et matris sue antecessorum et successorum suorum omniumque fidelium defunctorum animabus missam que dicitur pro defunctis singulis diebus in perpetuum in capella beate Virginis apud Auf̃ proviđerit celebrandam, et ad hoc assignauerit certas terras prata et pasturas cum suis pertinenciis, quilibet sacerdos celebrans institui debebit sicut in carta ipsius domini Johannis, quam inspeximus, plenius continetur. Nos pium ipsius propositum commendentes . . . . nostrum eidem adhibemus assensum ipsamque pro nobis et successoribus nostris quantum ad diocesanum pertinet confirmamus adjuvantes iuxta votum et voluntatem dicti domini Johannis quod Rogerus capellanus quem ipse ad cantariam misse predicte primitus presentauit et omnes sibi in posterum succedentes porciones in dicta carta contentas cum omnibus suis pertinentiis et modo et forma quibus dominus Johannes eas contulit teneat inconcusse missamque celebrent sicut pretactum est et dicant plenarie commendacionem "placebo" et "dirige" diebus singulis sicut ordinatur in Dei ecclesia pro defunctis. Ordinamus insuper quod qociens cantaria, per cessionem vel dęcessum capel-

lani deputati ad ipsam, vacauerit, prefatus dominus Johannes et heredes sui infra quadraginta dies libere nobis presentent quem voluerint idoneum ad eandem, quod si idem dominus Johannis vel heredes sui negligentes in hac parte fuerint, vel remissi, liceat nobis vel successoribus nostris qui pro tempore fuerint, cui prouiderimus idoneo capellano contariam ipsam sub modo et forma premissis ea vice sine contradictione qualibet assignare, manente tamen eisdem jure presentandi alias cum vacauerit nichilominus ad eandem. Volumus etiam et statuimus quod dictus Rogerus et capellani qui successive pro tempore fuerint nobis et successoribus nostris, archidiacono loci, aliisque, &c., subsint ut conuenit ac in mandatis canonicis eis obediant et intendant, &c.

Datum apud Woky Id., Marcii, anno gratie millesimo cc^mo sexagesimo tercio et pontificatus nostri anno sextodecimo.

743. Memorandum quod xj Kal., Marcii dominus dispensauit cum Willelmo de Thorington acolito, de soluto genito et soluta, auctoritate literarum venerabilis patris domini Gaucelini Dei gratia Albanensis episcopi quod ad omnes superiores ordines licite valeat promoueri et beneficium ecclesiasticum optinere, &c.

744. We, Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells, do grant to Master Peter de Scolaclif, advocate of the court of Canterbury, 100*s*. of an annual pension for advice and defence bestowed on us, and in future to be bestowed as long as he shall be an advocate in the said court.

745. Bishop Ralph to brother William de Dulue, brother of the hermits of the order of St. Augustine, of the convent of Bristol.

Ad audiendum confessiones quorumcumque subditorum nostrorum vobis volentium confiteri, et in eisdem ponderatis circumstantiis in ea parte ponderandis beneficium absolutionis canonice impendendum, in quibuscumque casibus ad forum anime pertinentibus in quibus nobis absolvendi est a jure permissa potestas, clericorum percussoribus sanctimonialium corruptoribus, &c., vobis licenciam concedimus specialem et vices nostras committimus per presentes ultra annum a data presentium minime valituram.

Datum apud Wyvelescombe, vij Kalend., Marcii, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo tricesimo quarto.

746. Bishop Ralph to Nicholas de Soweye, subdeacon.
You may be lawfully promoted to the order of deacon by any bishop holding the grace of the apostolic see.
Wyvelescomb, 25th Feb., A.D. 1334, and the 6th of our consecration.

747. ij Kal., March. Thomas de Honesbogh was admitted at Welyngton to the church of Wottone, vacant by the resignation of Sir Thomas de Carslake, at the presentation of the prior and monks of Stokecurci.

748. Kal., March, John de Chyu was admitted to the church of Nettelcombe, vacant by the death of Sir Nicholas de Orcharde, at the presentation of John de Ralegh.
Same day. William de Wythyfen was admitted to the vicarage of the prebendal church of Clyve [vacant] by the death of the lord of Exeter, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Clyve.

749. vij Id., Marcii. Dominus dispensauit cum Rogero Soke acolito, de soluto genito et soluta, auctoritate literarum venerabilis patris domini Gaucelini Dei gratia Albanensis episcopi quod ad omnes superiores ordines licite valeat promoueri, &c. Fol. 102.

750. Septimo Idus, Marcii. Dominus contulit apud Wyvelescombe Magistro Waltero de Burtone, subdecano Wellensi ecclesiam de Chyu per mortem Roberti de Atpurlegh ultimi rectoris ejusdem vacantem. Et direxit cfficiali suo literas sua pro inductione ejusdem.

751. Edwardus Die gratia Rex Anglie, &c., venerabili in Christo patri Radulpho eadem gratia Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo salutem. Cum per literas nostras patentes dederimus et concesserimus dilecto clerico nostro Pedro de Berkele preposituram in ecclesia sancti Andree Wellie, vacantem et ad nostram donationem spectantem ratione episcopatus Bathoniensis et Wellensis nuper vacantis et in manu domini Edwardi nuper regis Anglie avi nostri existentis.

Habendam cum suis juribus et pertinentiis quibuscumque prout in literis nostris predictis plenius continetur. Vobis mandamus quod ipsum Petrum ad preposituram predictam admittatis et in corporalem possessionem eiusdem induci faciatis. Teste me ipso apud Nouum Castrum super Tinam vicesimo secundo die Februarii anno regni nostro nono.

Whereas King Edward had conferred the wardenship of the cathedral church of Wells on Sir Peter de Berclee, and although the same Sir Peter presented his said collation to Bishop Ralph, the same father refused to do him justice in this behalf to the no small damage of the said Sir Peter. Wherefore I, the proctor of the said Sir Peter, appeal to the court of Canterbury.

Notified at Wyvelescombe, 10 March, A.D. 1334.

Presentibus. Magistris Roberto Hereward, Johanne de Rysingdone, Thoma de Schirigge, Thoma Coco, Willelmo Crol, Rogero Hagewas, Willelmo Bere, Waltero Standlake, Ricardo de Chippenham, Willelmo Bisschop, et Johanne Lof.

752. iii Kal., August A.D. 1334. John Barbe submitted himself before the lord Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells, in the chamber of the same Bishop at Woky in these words.

Ego Johannes Barbe, rector ecclesie de Cosyngton, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, pure, sponte et simpliciter submitto me ordinacioni et voluntati domini Radulphi Dei gratia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi alte et basse super negotio ex officio dicti patris judicialiter moto occasione detentionis ecclesie de Breon quam dudum obtinui, ac ecclesie de Cosyngtone predicte obtineo in presenti. Et juro ad sacrosancta Die ewangelia per me corporaliter tacta quod observabo in omnibus ordinacionem et voluntatem predictas et in nullo contraveniam eisdem.

Presentibus. Magistris W. de Burtone, Petro de Avebury, Johanne de Middelton, Thoma de Assche, et W. de Banewell, testibus, &c.

Fol. 102b. 753. Incipit annus Domini millesimus ccc^mus^ quintus.

Id. Marcii Johannes De Wyte dictus Grey rector ecclesie de Oterhampton admissus fuit ad cantariam pro anima Ricardi de Welles et animabus omnium fidelium defunctorum in capella beati Thome celebrandam ex causa permutationis cum domino

Roberto Chepman perpetuo capellano dicte Cantarie ad presentationem majoris et communitatis Bristoll'. Et demandatum fuit archidiacono Bathonie aut ejus officiali pro inductione.

The same day Robert Chepman was admitted to the church of Oterhampton by reason of exchange with John de Wyte, called Grey, at the presentation of John de More, by reason of the custody of Walter, son and heir of John de Ramesye, knight, deceased. Archdeacon of Taunton to induct.

754. xi Kal., April. The lord, at Wyvelescomb, admitted Master Nicholas de Bromlegh to the church of Greynton, vacant by the resignation of William Rosemond, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston.

755. Eodem die et loco dominus contulit subdecanatum Welle et ecclesiam de Woky eidem canonice junctam et annexam Magistro W. de Hull et mandavit officiali suo pro inductione ejusdem.

756. Decimo Kalend. Aprilis concessa fuit gratia standi in scolis Willelmo de Hampton rectori de Bageworth duratura per annum.

757. Institutus fuit eodem die dominus Willelmus de Wynchestre in ecclesiam de Saltford iuxta Keynesham.

758. Sexto Kalend., Aprilis, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ tricesimo quinto collatus fuit subdecanatus Wellie Magistro Waltero de Hulle.

759. Eodem die institutus fuit Magister Johannes de Myddelton in ecclesiam de Schepton Belli Campi.

760. Primo die mensis Aprilis Robertus Le Hare presbiter admissus fuit ad ecclesiam de Erneshulle ad presentationem domine Sibille de Mohon.

761. Secundo die eiusdem mensis Johannes Danesy de Fenhampton, presbiter, admissus fuit ad ecclesiam de Kyngtone (near Taunton).

762. v. Id., April, at Glastyngbury. Licence for Sir Hugh Druwes, rector of the church of Fodyngton, [chapel in Babcary] to follow in the service of William Cheyney, to last for a year.

763. iv. Id., April. Nicholas de Souwy was admitted at Glaston to the vicarage of the church of Estbrente at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston.

764. We, Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells, condemn you, Oger Keruec, of the diocese of Exeter, in *27li.* to be paid to Master Robert Hereward, archdeacon of Taunton.

Tertio die mensis Aprilis anno Domini supradicto lata fuit ista sententia apud Northon in camera domini Thome de Stapelton per Magistrum J. de Middelt[on], organum vocis dicti domini episcopi ipso presente.

Presentibus Talgoulou et Magistro Thoma Assche testibus, &c.

*Folio* 103 *is missing.*

Fol. 104. 765. Id., April. Sir Richard Lekynge, of Muleborn, admitted to the church of Gothulle at the presentation of the lady Elizabeth de Monte Acuto.

766. xv. Kal., May. Licence for Robert de la Dyche, rector of Thelesforde, not to reside until Michaelmas.

767. xiij. Kal., May. Religiosi uiri Abbas et conuentus sancti Michaelis in periculo maris percipientes medietatem decimarum garbarum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Mertoke pertinentium ut sufficienter muniti dimissi sunt ex officio et habent literas domini super hoc sub sigillo.

768. xiv. Kal., May. Licence for Richard de Chuderlegh, rector of Corscombe, deacon, to study of a year in the University of Oxford.

769. iii. Kal., May. Sir William de Breynton, clerk, was admitted to the church of Middelton, [Podymore Milton] near Ilchester, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston

770. 13 May. The lord granted to the rector of Doughete [Donyatt] that he can stay in the service of William de Breynton until Michaelmas.

771. 14 May, A.D. 1335. Licence for Sir William, rector of Pennedommer, to follow in the service of Sibyl West until tion Michaelmas, at the instance of Sir Thomas West.

772. Id., May. Richard Payn, priest, was admitted to the church of Astyngton, [Ashington by Ilchester] at the presentation of Sir Simon de Forneaux, knight, at Chiw.

773. 30 May, A.D. 1335. Licence of non residence for Master Walter de Wyke, rector of Farnburgh.

774. Memorandum quod sexto Id., Junii, dominus dispensauit cum domino Roberto rectore ecclesie de Oterhampton super non residentia per biennium.

775. Memorandum quod eodem die, concessit dominus inhabitantibus burgum suum de Cherd quod licite possint facere celebrari in capella in dicto burgo situata, secunda feria, quarta et sexta, per biennium singulis septimanis.

776. iii. Id., June. Sir William Briddale, priest, was admitted to the church of Sokke, [Sock Denis] near Ilchester, at the presentation of Sir Nicholas Boleuille, knight.

777. xi. Kal., July. Sir John Caam, chaplain, was admitted to the church of Craucomb at the presentation of the prioress and convent of Stodlegh.

778. Same day. Sir Ralph Lucy, chaplain, was admitted to the church of Kytinare, [*i.e.*, Culborne] at the presentation of John de Bratton.

779. Bishop Ralph to Masters Richard de Thystelden, treasurer of Wells and Walter de Hull, sub-dean of the same. Master John de Carleton, canon of Wells, and prebendary of Tymbrescumbe, has set forth to us that he possesses the said

canonry and prebend, and has asked us to declare that he was, and is, canonical possessor of the said canonry and prebend. Believing the petition to be reasonable, we commit to you to cause all those whom it concerns to be cited to appear before us or our commissary in the church of Wells to show wherefore we should not proceed to judgment.

Claverton, Kal., July, A.D. 1335.

780. Item alia commissio pro forma.

Bishop Ralph, executor appointed to provide Richard de Hilcomb, otherwise called de Combe, a poor priest of his diocese with an ecclesiastical benefice belonging to the collation or presentation of the prior and chapter of Bath, to the abbot of St. Augustine's, Bristol, and the archdeacon of Tanton.

We commit to both or one of you to proceed in the said matter and finish our offices.

Dated, &c.

781. Bishop Ralph, executor appointed to provide Walter de Westcote, a poor priest of the diocese of Exeter, with an ecclesiastical benefice belonging to the collation or presentation of the prior and convent of Tanton, to the discreet man, &c.

We commit to you our offices to enquire concerning the life and conversation of the priest aforesaid, &c.

Fol. 105. 782. Willelmus de Ludeford pauper clericus Wellensis diocesis impetrauit in forma pauperum ad collacionem Abbatisse et Conuentus monasterii de Schaftebury ordinis sancti Benedicti Sarum diocesis, in diocese Wellen' unde presentatis per eundem clericum literis apostolicis et receptis, dominus super literis hujusmodi processum suum in persona propria faciebat, commisitque negocium prouisionis huiusmodi ulterius exequendum, dominis de Brywton et Staverdale, prioribus, archidiacono Tantonensi, subdecano Wellensi, magistris Johanni de Carletone et Johanni de Wamberg, canonicis, et pluribus aliis, &c., cum illa clausula. Vobis et cuilibet vestrum insolidum ita quod condicio occupantis melior non existat.

De data apud Banewelle, xxviij die mensis Junii anno

Domini millessimo ccc^mo xxxv^to. Fuerantque litere apostolice supradicte, de data Ammon' .ij. Idus Marcii, pontificatus domini Benedicti Pape xij, anno primo.

783. Item in forma consimili dominus Adam de Aisschelegh, pauper presbiter Lichfieldensis diocesis ad collationem Abbatis et Conuentus Cirencestrie ordinis sancti Augustini Wigorniensis diocesis in diocesi Bathonie impetrauit. Fiebat processus et committebatur negocium sicut supra donec vices hujusmodi dominus duxerit revocandas.

De data apud Banewell prima die mensis Julii anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo xxxv.

784. Bishop Ralph to Master Roger, archdeacon of Wells.

Cum sit juris notissimi, vestram credimus noticiam non latere quin a vobis sicut ab aliis nostris subditis canonica obediencia debeatur quam vestri precessores et predecessores debitum humilitatis recognoscentes spiritum nostris predecessoribus prestiterunt. Modeste siquidem ferre vos non convenit, si ad ipsam prestandam quam prestare hactenus distulistis, vos canonicis monicionibus excitemus. Tenore igitur presencium canonice vos monemus quatinus laxatis fastidiosis febris citra instans festum sancte Margarete Virginis ad nos in manerio nostro de Banewell prestituri hujusmodi canonicam obedienciam ut tenemini, declinetis. Quid enim super hiis duxeritis faciendum, nos citra dictum festum curetis redere certiores literis vestris patentibus habentibus harum formam. Super exhibicione quarum nuntio nostro jurato fidem dabimus portatori.

Scriptam in dicto manerio nostro de Banewell quarto die mensis Julii anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo tricesimo quinto et nostre consecrationis sexto.

785. Bishop Ralph to the official of the jurisdiction of the deanery of Wells, and the dean of Bath.

In our last visitation in the church of Berwe, archdeaconry of Wells, it was found that the perpetual vicar has not a sufficient portion.

We command you that you cite Sir Roger, archdeacon of Wells, and others if there be any whom it concerns to appear

before us or our commissary in the parish church of Banewell on the next judicial day after the feast of St. Margaret the Virgin to see what we are to do in the matter.

Dated, &c.

786. We, Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, by these presents do appoint Master Roger de Brikeheke our proctor to defend in our name, the cause which is moved in the Roman court touching the wardenship of the church of Wells.

Banewelle, A.D. 1335, 20 April.

Stephen Trippe, clerk of Bath and Wells, public notary, saw the above written by the lord bishop.

787. Bishop Ralph, executor to provide Roger de Clobiry, a poor clerk of the diocese of Exeter, "qui in nostra diocesie perpetuam mansionem se asserit eligisse," with an ecclesiastical benefice belonging to the collation or presentation of the prior
Fol. 106. and convent of Tanton, to the subdean of Wells, and the chancellor of Exeter. We commit to you or one of you our offices in the matter.

Banewell, 10 July, A.D. 1335.

788. Bishop Ralph to the abbot and convent of Mucelneye.

Nuper siquidem jure diocesano, vos et vestrum monasterium visitantes comperimus quod aliqui monachi domus vestre qui secundum canonica instituta vili suppellectili deberent esse contente aliis fratribus difformiter conversantes in refectorio vasis preciosis et splendidis in suis refeccionibus abutuntur. Alii quibus ex ordinis proprio exilia tugurria sufficere poterant et deberent, lectos seu cubilia in communi dormitorio ad modum tabernaculi seu vestibuli, sibi fieri faciunt et ornaciorem aliis, sibi in hujusmodi preparant apparatum. Alii privatum secessum, singulares commessaciones seu aliam lasciviam indiscrete nimium affectantes ad refectiones in refectorio, prout exposcit monachalis professio, non accedunt. Alii soli vagi per itinera campos et rura equitant et discurrunt non recolentes prouerbium sapientis.

"Ve soli quia non habet si ceciderit sublevantem." Et quia conformes decet esse quos religionis uniformitas coequauit, prohibemus ne in suppellectili, seu apparatu quocumque in refectorio

dormitoris vel alibi monachi de vestro conventu adinvicem de cetero sint difformes. Precipientes quod predicta tabernacula, seu vestibula, citra festum sancti Michaelis omnino faciant demolliri; et quod due partes conventus adminus singulis diebus in premissis refeccionibus in refectorio studeant interesse. Insuper injungentes quod monachi domus vestre monasterii limites non aliter exire presumant; nisi obtenta abbatis aut absente abbate alterius presidentis licencia, et tunc bini fratres simul adminus equitent vel incedant. Quam licentiam moderate dari precipimus gravitate servata.

Item extitit in nostra visitatione detectum quod viri seculares sine deletu ac mulieres et puelle septa claustri et refectorii vestri monasterii sepius et inpudenter subniteant et quod fabriceria vestra, sue domus fabrorum, ita est firmarie vicina, quod ictus malleantium in ea infirmos in infirmaria gravant plurume et molestant. Propter quod vobis injungimus et mandamus quod hostia claustri et refectorii taliter exacte custodie deputetis quod virorum inordinatus moderetur accessus et mulieres seu puelle contra religionis honestatem et mulierum modestiam ipsam ex nunc ingredi non presumant et fabriceria ita eminus collocetur, quod infirmis hujusmodi nullatenus afferat nocumentum.

Vobis eciam injungendo mandamus quatinus defectus ecclesie vestri monasterii, qui tempore visitacionis, nostris oculis liquide patuerunt, citra festum predictum reparari seu refici faciatis, sub pena. C. solidorum pauperibus juxta nostrum arbitrium applicanda, ita quod divina ibidem congrue celebrari valeant et audiri, &c.

Datum apud Banewell sexto Idus Julii anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ tricesimo quinto, &c.

789. Memorandum quod quinto Idus Julii apud Banewell anno Domini supradicto commissum fuit negocium provisionis Thome de la Whitta pauperis clerici Exoniensis diocesis ad collationem abbatis et conuentus Glaston' impetrantis subdecano Wellensi sub forma superius annotata.

790. Item quinto Idus Julii commissum fuit negocium provisionis Iohannis de Cammel pauperis clerici nostre diocesis ad collationem abbatus et conventus de Clyva impetrantis sub-

decano Wellensi et Magistro Johanni de Wamberge ejusdem ecclesie canonicis in consimili forma ut supra.

791. In Dei nomine Amen. Ego Andreas de Welles, Decanus de Axebrugge, ero obediens domino Radulpho Dei gratia Bathonensi et Wellensi Episcopo, ipsius Officiali et ministris, et fideliter exequar mandata per eosdem mihi directa, &c. Prestitum fuit presens juramentum in camera domini Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi apud Banewell . . . per dictum dominum Andream. xvi. die mensis Julii, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo tricesimo quinto. . . Presentibus Johanne de Carleton et Adam de Nymport et Ricardo de Souweye testibus ad hoc vocatis et rogatis.

792. Institution of Sir William Malet, priest, at Banewell, to the church of Culve, vacant by the free resignation of Sir John de Plymstoke.

793. Raufe par la suffrance de Dieu Euesque de Baa et de Welles a touz̃ noz̃ tenantz̃ frankes et autres de noz̃ manoirs Clauereton et Hampton salutz̃ en Dieu. Purceqe nous avoms ordene et establi Richard Spreynchose Bayllif et Garden de noz̃ manoirs avantditz̃ a surveer et garder les overaignes qils soient loialment faites et toutes autres choses appurtenantes a cell offiz̃ en les manoirs avantditz̃, Vos maundoms qe au dit Richard come a noster Bayllif . . . soiez̃ entendantz̃ et respoignauntz̃, &c.
Banewell, le xvij iour de Julii. Lan de nostre sacre, sisme.

794. vi Kal., Aug. The matter of providing Thomas de Baltonesburg, a poor priest, committed to the prior of Taunton.

795. v Kal., Aug. Letters dimissory for Richard Nytere, acolyte, to all holy orders.

796. v Kal., Aug. Licence for Sir William de Langeburgh to study for a year.

797. v Kal., Aug. The matter of providing William Le Valey

of Bedminstre, a poor clerk, committed to the chancellor of Wells and Master John de Wamberge, canon of the same church.

798. Bishop Ralph to Master John de Wamberge, canon of Wells.

We commit to you our offices to confer the prebend of Combe on Master Walter de Hulle, priest, and to assign him a stall in the choir.

Banewell, x Kal., Aug., A.D. 1335.

799. iv Kal., Aug. Licence for Sir Philip de la Lee, rector of Bledon, to be absent for a year.

800. Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie, venerabili in Christo patri. R. eadem gratia Bathoniensi et Wellensi Episcopo salutem. Quia super diversis et arduis negociis nos et statum regni nostri ac aliarum terrarum nostrarum que post ultimum Parliamentum nostrum evenerunt intime contingentibus et aliis ordinavimus vobiscum et cum ceteris Prelatis Magnatibus et Proceribus dicti regni in Octabis sancti Hillarii proximo futuris apud Westmonasterium habere colloquium et tractatum. Vobis mandamus firmiter injungentes quatinus omni excusacione cessante dictis die et loco personaliter intersitis nobiscum et cum ceteris Prelatis Magnatibis et Proceribus super premissis tractaturi vestrumque consilium inpensuri. Et hoc sicut nos et honorem nostrum et tranquillitatem dicti regni ac terrarum nostrarum predictarum diligitis, nullatenus omittatis.

Teste me ipso apud Guldefordam xx. die Nouembris anno regni nostri quinto. Fol. 107.

Per ipsum Regem.

801. Writ to the Bishop to cause Richard Anselm, clerk, to come before the justices, at Westminster, on the quindene of Easter to answer to Alice de Columbariis of a plea that he render to her 20 marks.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 26 Nov., 5 Edw. iii.

Return. Citari fecimus.

802. The King to Bishop Ralph.

Because Nicholas de Wedergrave, late a clerk of your diocese, who has closed his last day, was bound to us in 91*li.* 6*s.* 3*d.* for the remainder of his account of the issues of the temporalities of the abbey of Glaston lately being vacant from 21 Nov. in the 16th year of King Edward, our father, until 12 March next following. We command you that you cause the said money to be sequestrated from the ecclesiastical goods of the same Nicholas as well at Waleton near Glaston as elsewhere in your diocese, and cause the said money to be levied to the value of 91*li.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, and have it at Westminster on the quindene of the Purification of the Blessed Mary.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at Westminster, 18 Jan., in the 5th year of our reign.

In the margin. Return.

All the ecclesiastical goods of Sir Nicholas de Wedergraue ſound in our diocese we have caused to be sequestrated. Nevertheless we could not find purchasers for those goods, (which truly do not exceed the value of 50*li.*) because they have been arrested by the sheriff of Somerset and Robert Torry, he [Robert] pretending that he is a minister of the King.

803. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because our sheriff of Southampton returned at our Exchequer on the morrow of St. Hilary last that John de Langeport, parson of the church of Clavertone has nothing in his bailiwick by which he can be attached, and that the same John is a beneficed clerk in your diocese. We command you that you cause the said John to come before the barons of our Exchequer in three weeks from the day of the Purification to answer, together with Gregory de Castello, knight, John Le Spycer, of Salisbury, and John Gilbert, to Margaret who was the wife of Edmund, formerly earl of Kent, deceased, and Adam de Lymbergh, executors of the will of the said deceased, for goods and chattels to the value of 235*li.* 18*s.* 10*d.* which were of the said earl, found in the manor of Selkestede. And also to answer to the same executors, together with Gregory de Castello, knight, John Le Spycer, of Salisbury, William son of William de Wandelesworth, John de Leycestre, and John atte

Hyde for goods and chattels to the value of 330*li.* 13*s.* 6*d.* which were of the same earl, found at Winchester. We also command you that you cause the said Adam to know that he be at the same day and place to sue together with the said Margaret.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at Westminster, 26 Jan., in the 6th year of our reign.

In the margin. Return.

We have diligently sought for John de Langport and Adam de Lymbergh and could not find them.

804. Breve domini Regis de Parliamento.

Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie, &c., venerabili in Christo patri, Radulpho eadem gratia Bathoniensi et Wellensi Episcopo salutem. Cum magnificus Princeps Philippus Rex Francie, &c.

Summons to attend the Parliament to be held at Westminster on Monday next after the feast of St. Gregory the Pope next to come. Printed in "Dugdale's Summones to Parliament," p. 167].

Feste me ipso apud Westmonasterim xxvij die Januarii anno regni nostri sexto.

805. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore, that you distrain John de Langeport [as in the writ dated 26 Jan.]

Witness A. Le Scrop, at Westminster, 2 March, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. We have distrained John de Langeport, clerk, to appear.

806. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause 7*s.* 2*d.* to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of William Rospyn, parson of the church of Wydecomb, and have them before our justices at Westminster, on the quindene of Easter to render to the prior of Bath for the arrears of an annual rent of 14*s.* 4*d.* Do you also have before our said justices 28*s.* 8*d.* of the ecclesiastical goods of the said William, which you detain, to render to the prior. Fol. 108.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 12 Feb., in the 6th year of our reign.

In the margin. Return.

We have caused the ecclesiastical goods of William Rospyn to be sequestrated. Nevertheless we did not make the money therefrom because purchasers were not found. We have not before you the 28*s.* 8*d.* because we do not find in the register that we so certified. Nevertheless we have thought fit to sequestrate the ecclesiastical goods of the said William to their value.

807. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Peter de Es, executor of the will of Joan, formerly Countess of Lincoln, your clerk, to come before our justices at Westminster, on the quindene of Holy Trinity to answer to William de Thortoft of a plea that he, together with Nicholas Martyn and Nicholas de Boneuill, coexecutors of the said Peter, render to her 20 marks.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 30 Jan., in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. Peter de Es is not beneficed in our diocese.

808. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Geoffrey, vicar of Westburi, executor of the will of William Atte Felde, your clerk, to come before our justices on the quindene of Easter, to answer to Katherine, daughter of John Le Warre, of a plea that he together with Dionisia who was the wife of William Atte Felde, render to her 9 marks.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 1 Feb., in the 6th year of our reign.

per J. de Stonare. Return. Citari fecimus.

809. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Thomas, vicar of Westone near Chedesye, to come before our justices on the quindene of Easter to answer to Richard Le Ferrour, of Wedmor, chaplain, of a plea that he render to him 56*s.* 8*d.*

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 12 Feb., in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

810. The King to Bishop Ralph.

We have granted to our very dear kinsman Edward de Bohun the rent of 54*li.* which you were wont to pay for the manors of Congresburi, Cheddre, and Axebrugge, co. Somerset. Which said rent was of Edmund, late earl of Kent, deceased, and which by reason of the minority of John, son and heir of the said earl, is in our hand. To have in aid of the sustentation of the said Edward until the lawful age of the heir aforesaid. Unless we shall think fit to provide 200 marks of land and rent, to hold to the same Edward and his issue.

Clarendon, 30 Nov., 5 Edw. iii.

811. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Nicholas de Wedergraue, late a clerk of your diocese, was bound to us in 91*li.* 6*s.* 3*d.* for the issues of the temporalities of the abbey of Glaston; and now it has been supplicated on the behalf of John Danyel and Andrew de Welles, of the co. of Somerset, and John de Uphull, of the co. of Devon, executors of the will of the said Nicholas, that we will grant administration of the goods and chattels of the said Nicholas. We command you that, having taken sufficient security to satisfy us for the debts aforesaid, you cause all the goods and chattels to be delivered to the aforesaid executors.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 3 March, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. We first received this writ on 2 May. Wherefore, on account of the lapse of time, and because the executors offered us no security we could not execute the writ.

812. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

John de Langeport, parson of the church of Claverton, came before the barons of our Exchequer on the morrow of the close of Easter last past to answer to Margaret who was the wife of Edmund, late earl of Kent, of a plea of withholding certain goods. And therefore we command you that you cause the sequestration which you caused to be put on the ecclesiastical goods of the said John to be relaxed.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at Westminster, 6 May, in the 6th year of our reign.

Fol. 109. 813. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Our sheriff of Somerset and Dorset returned at our Exchequer on the quindene of Easter last that William de Pikesle and Master Thomas de Haselschawe, executors of the will of Richard de Rodenye, deceased, formerly one of the executors of the will of William de Marchia, formerly bishop of the place aforesaid, have nothing in his bailiwick by which they can be attached, and that they are clerks in your diocese and beneficed in the same. And the sheriff of Gloucester [has returned] that William de Braynton, executor of the will of Thomas de Berkeleye, deceased, executor of the will of the said William de Marchia, has nothing in his bailiwick, and it is testified that William de Brayntone is a clerk and beneficed in your diocese, We command you that you cause the said William de Pykesle, Master Thomas, and William de Braynton to come before our said barons on the octave of Holy Trinity to acquit against us, together with John de Bradeford another executor of the will of the said Thomas de Berkeleye, Ralph, now bishop of the place aforesaid, of 10*li.* which are exacted to our use from the same bishop for a moiety granted to the lord E. our grandfather.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 8 May, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

814. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas, amongst other lands and tenements which on the 30th day of Nov. last we granted to Edward de Bohun, we granted to him the rent of 54*li.* which you are bound to pay us for the manors of Congresbury, Ceddre, and Axebrugge, co. Somerset. We command you that you pay those 27*li.* which you owe us of the rent aforesaid to the said Edward.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 8 May, in the 6th year of our reign.

815. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

The sheriff of our co. of Somerset returned at our Exchequer on the quindene of Easter last that William Le Stabler, vicar of Inglescomb, has nothing in his bailiwick whereby he can be attached, and that he is beneficed in your diocese. We command you that you cause the said William to come before the barons of the Exchequer on the octaves of St. John

the Baptist to answer to us and to Andrew de Welles, John Danyel, and John Uppehulle, executors of the will of Nicholas de Wedergraue, deceased, wherefore the lord E. late King of England, our father, on the 28th day of May in the 11th year of his reign, had committed to the said Nicholas the custody of the lands and tenements in Overwere then being in the hand of our said father by reason of the minority of the heir of John Apadam. To have until the lawful age of the said heir; paying 10*li.* by the year to our father, the said William together with Anselm de Gorneye entered the lands and tenements aforesaid before the said Nicholas could take any of the issues, and as yet occupies them, by which the rent aforesaid and its arrears have not been taken to our use.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 19 May, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused the within written William Le Stabler, clerk, to be summoned.

816. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Although on the 14th day of May last we commanded you to sequester 50*li.* of those ecclesiastical goods which were of Nicholas de Wedergraue, nevertheless because Andrew de Welles, John Danyel, and John de Uppehull, executors of the will of the said Nicholas, have found security to satisfy us, we command you that you deliver the goods and chattels so appraised at 50*li.* to the aforesaid executors.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 30 May, in the 6th year of our reign.

817. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

It appears to us by inspection of the rolls of the Exchequer that the abbot of Glaston late collector of a tenth granted to us by the clergy in the first year of our reign in your diocese is charged in his account rendered for the same tenth at our Exchequer for the sums under written, viz. :—

5*s.* for the vicar of Montacute,
6*s.* 8*d.* for the rector of Cedene.
20*s.* for the rector of Monketon.
5*s.* 4*d.* for the prebendary of Tymbrescomb.
8*s.* for the prebendary of Whitchurch.

30*s.* for the prebendary of Iatton.
6*s.* 8*d.* for the prebendary of Lutton.
21*s.* 4*d.* for the rector of Wroxhale.
6*s.* 8*d.* for the rector of Cotecomb and Luggebere.
2*s.* 8*d.* for the pension of the nuns of Barwe.

For which the abbot is not satisfied. And therefore we command you as heretofore that you cause the said money to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the prebendaries, &c., aforesaid, and when you levy the money cause it to be paid to the abbot in his discharge.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 3 April, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused the sums to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the prebendary of Tymbrescomb, the rector of Wroxhale, and the vicar of Monte Acuto. We have sequestered the goods of the rectors of Cedene and Monketon, and of the prebendary of Iattone to the value within written, but have not found purchasers. We have not levied the money from the rector of Cotecomb and Luggebere and the nuns of Barwe nor sequestered the goods, because from the time of the receipt of this writ until the autumn now next to come no goods are found there.

Fol. 110. 818. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas we granted to Edward de Bohun the rent of 54*li.* for the manors of Congresbury, Ceddre, and Axebrugge. We command you that you pay the said rent to the said Edward at the terms at which you were accustomed to pay us.

Witness ourself at Croidon, the 26th day of Feb., in the 5th year of our reign.

819. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you have before our justices, at Westminster on the octaves of Holy Trinity *7s.* 2*d.* which you caused to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of William Raspyn, parson of Wydecomb, to pay to the prior of Bath. Also 28*s.* 8*d.* which you caused to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the said William to pay to the said prior.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 20 May, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. We have not the said *7s. 2d.* nor the *28s. 8d.* before you on account of the slowness of delivering the writ, nor have we at any time certified you that we have the money in our possession. But we certified you that we had caused the goods of the same clerk to be sequestered to as much value as is contained in our return on the quindene of Easter last, and when it happens that you order us again we will make that money from the goods of the said clerk.

820. The King to the sheriff of Somerset. If John de Lekesworth make you secure for prosecuting his claim, then put Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, John Le Webbe, of Bisschopessuttone, and Geoffry de Doddyngmede by safe pledges that they be before our justices, at Westminster, on the octaves of St. John the Baptist to show wherefore with force and arms they depastured the grass of the said John at Westbury to the value of *10li.*

Witness the King, at Wodestoke, the 8th day of June in the 6th year.

821. The King to the sheriff of Somerset and Dorset.

We order you that you altogether supersede the execution of our writ to levy *118li.* from the lands and chattels of the bishop of Bath and Wells which he owes us for the rent of the manors of Congresbury, Cheddre, and Axebrugge for the 4th and 5th years of our reign.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at Westminster, 25 June, in the 6th year of our reign.

A copy of the writ was delivered to the bailiff of Wells 3 July.

822. The King to Bishop Ralph.

Prohibemus vobis ne admittatis parsonam ad ecclesiam de Kyngeston Seymor que vacat ut dicitur, et de cujus advocacione contencio mota est in Curia nostra inter Johannem de Boudone et Johannam uxorem ejus et Isabellam que fuit uxor Mauricii

de Berkele donec discussum fuerit in eadem Curia utrum ad predictos Johannem et Johannam an ad predictam Isabellam pertineat ejusdem ecclesie advocacio.

Wodestoke, 7 July, in the 6th year of our reign.

Like writ to Bishop Ralph.

We forbid that you admit a parson to the church of Kyngestone Seymor, touching the advowson of which contention has been moved between John de Boudone and Joan his wife and John de Ken.

Wodestoke, 7 July, in the 6th year of our reign.

823. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore we have commanded you, that you have before our justices on the octaves of St. Michael *7s. 2d.* which you detain of the ecclesiastical goods of William Ruspyn, parson of Wydecomb.

Also *28s. 8d.* which you detain of the ecclesiastical goods of the said William.

Witness W. de Herle, 7 July, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. We have not the money before you on account of certain great men maintaining the part of the said William Ruspyn.

We have not been able to compel the same clerk by censures, because he lives continually outside our diocese.

Fol. 111. 824. Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitandie, venerabili in Christo patri. R. eadem gratia Bathonensis et Wellensis Episcopo, salutem. Quia super diuersis et arduis negociis nos et statum regni nostri ac terre nostre Hibernie specialiter contingentibus, ordinauimus Parliamentum nostrum apud Westmonasterium in Crastino Natiuitatis beate Marie Virginis proximo futuro tenere, et vobiscum ac cum ceteris prelatis, &c. Vobis mandamus in fide, &c.

Teste me ipso apud Wodestoke xx. die Julii anno regni nostri sexto.

825. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you as heretofore that you cause Richard, vicar of Werle, executor of the will of Walter de Prestone, late

executor of the will of John de Pountoyse, formerly bishop of Winchester, to come before the barons of our Exchequer on the morrow of St. Michael to satisfy us, together with William de Standford, another executor of the will of the same bishop, and the other executors of the wills of the other executors of the said Walter and William of the will of the said bishop, who have the same day therein there, for 155*li.* 11*s.* 3*d.* demanded at our said Exchequer under the name of the said bishop in respect of a subsidy of a moiety of his spiritualities and temporalities in the diocese of Winchester granted to King Edward, our grandfather in the 23rd year of his reign.

And know that we wonder much because you have not taken care to send our writ heretofore directed to you herein for execution, nor to return it on the octave of St. John the Baptist last.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at Westminster, 30 July, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused Richard, vicar of Werle, to be diligently sought and could not find him. We never received another writ than this, and if we had received it, we would not have been negligent in your commands.

826. Writ to the sheriff of Somerset.

If Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells, make you secure for prosecuting his claim, then put John de Ken, Robert, son of Hugh de Ken, and William, brother of the same Robert, William Le Ridelare, Roger Horymer, William Horputte, and Henry Leget by safe pledges that they be before our justices, at Westminster, on the quindene of St. Michael to show wherefore the same bishop has, and he and his predecessors, bishops of the places aforesaid, from a time whereof memory runneth not, hitherto were accustomed to have a certain sum of money for every beast depasturing in the moor of the said bishop at his manor of Yattone every year for having pasture in the same moor. And the bishop caused beasts depasturing there to be seized by Henry Willynge and Walter Bole, his servants, for divers sums of money due, the said John (and others) with force and arms rescued those beasts.

Witness ourself, at Wodestoke, 12 July, in the 6th year of our reign.

827. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because John de Malmesbury, parson of the church of Herthill, co. York, and Thomas de London, parson of the church of Chilbaltone, co. Southampton, ought to have paid to Master Nicholas Haghman 240 marks, as appears by inspection of the rolls of the chancery, and has not yet paid them. Wherefore we commanded J. Bishop of Winchester, that he cause 120 marks of the said sum to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the said Thomas in his diocese, and the bishop signified to us that he caused 100*s.* to be levied and let the said Nicholas have them. Whereupon we commanded to cause 112 marks 6*s.* 8*d.*, the residue to be levied, and the bishop signified to us that he had sequestered of the ecclesiastical goods of the said Thomas to the value of 2½ marks, for which he could not find purchasers. Whereupon we commanded the 2½ marks and the residue to be levied and have them in our chancery on the morrow of the Blessed Mary Magdalen last past. And the bishop signified to us that the said Thomas is not now parson of the said church, but is parson of the church of Meriet, of your diocese. We command you that you cause the remaining 110 marks to be levied in your diocese and have them in our chancery on the octaves of St. Michael next to come. And we have commanded the said bishop to levy the said 2½ marks in his diocese, and the Archbishop of York to levy 120 marks in his diocese.

Witness ourself, at Wodestoke, 24 July, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. We have sequestrated 30*s.* of the ecclesiastical goods of Thomas de London, but have not found purchasers.

828. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Robert Hereward, archdeacon of Taunton, to come before our justices, at Westminster, on the morrow of All Souls to answer to Peter de Shaldeford of a plea that he render to him 13*li.*

Witness W. de Herle, 25 June, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

829. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as many times we have commanded, that you cause Peter de Es, executor of the will of Joan, countess of Lincoln, your clerk, that he come before our justices at Westminster, on the morrow of St Martin to answer to William de Thorntoft of a plea that he, together with Nicholas Martyn and Nicholas de Boneville, render to him 20 marks.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 8 July, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. Not found and not beneficed in our diocese.

830. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 112.

We command you that you cause 6*s.* 8*d.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of the rector of Cedene, 20*s.* from those of the rector of Moncketon, and 30*s.* from those of the prebendary of Jatton, lately sequestrated, and the monies underwritten.

Prebendary of Whitchurch, 8*s.* Prebendary of Lutton, 6*s.* 8*d.* Rector of Codecomb and Luggebere, 6*s.* 8*d.* Pension of the nuns of Barwe. 2*s.* 8*d.*

For which sums the abbot of Glaston, late collector of a tenth granted by the clergy in your diocese, is charged. And when you levy those monies cause them to be paid to the said abbot together with 31*s.* 8*d.* by you levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the prebendary of Tymbrescombe, the rector of Wroxhale, and the vicar of Montacute.

Witness H. Le Scrope, at Westminster, 20 July, in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. The goods of the rector of Cedene remain for lack of purchasers.

We have made 20*s.* from the goods of the rector of Monekton, and 20*s.* from those of the prebendary of Jatton. The residue, viz. 10*s.* from the prebendary of Jatton remains sequestrated, a purchaser not being found.

We have not caused the monies to be made from the goods of the prebendaries of Whitchurch and Luttone, and the nuns of

Barwe because there are no goods, The rector of Codecombe and Luggebere exhibited letters of acquittance.

831. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

John de Boudone and Joan his wife recovered in our court their presentation to the church of Kyngeston Seymor against Isabella who was the wife of Maurice de Berkelee by the default of the said Isabella. We command you that you admit a fit parson at the presentation of the said John and Joan.

Witness J. de Cantebr', 10 Oct., in the 6th year of our reign.

Roll 25.

832. Summons to attend the Parliament to be held at York on Friday next before the feast of St. Nicholas next.

Teste me ipso apud Ebor'. xx. die Octobris anno regni nostri sexto.

Printed in "Dugdale's Summones to Parliament," p. 171.

833. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph and his official and their commissaries.

Whereas we recovered our presentation to the archdeaconry of Wells, vacant and pertaining to our donation by reason of the bishopric being vacant and in the hand of the lord E. our grandfather, against you, and we conferred the archdeaconry on Master Thomas de Upptone. And the said clerk was admitted and inducted into corporal possession by you. And we have understood that certain men maliciously impugn our royal right and the judgment aforesaid, &c. We prohibit that you attempt anything which may turn in derogation of our royal right or the weakening of the judgment aforesaid.

Witness ourself at York, 3 Nov., in the 6th year of our reign.

834. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

John de Boudon and Joan his wife recovered their presentation to the church of Kyngeston Seymour against John de Ken by the default of the said John. We command you that you admit a fit parson at the presentation of the said John and Joan.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 19 Nov., in the 6th year of our reign.

Roll 441.

835. Writ directed to Bishop Ralph proroguing the Parliament until Wednesday in the octaves of St. Hilary next.

Teste at York, 11 Dec., 6 Edw. iii.

[Printed in "Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament," p. 173.]

836. The King's writ to the barons of the Exchequer to acquit Bishop Ralph of 54*li.* which he paid to Edward de Bohun, being the rent of the manors of Congresbury, Ceddre and Axebrugge. [*s. d.*] Fol. 113.

837. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas it is contained in a certain statute in the first year of our reign, that every man having wood within a forest may take husbote and haibote in his wood without attachment of the officers of the forest, as long as he does it by the view of the foresters. And now we have understood that you, because Matthew Pecche, forester of the fee of our forest in the county of Somerset, and certain other foresters and officers of our forest there, attached certain of your men and servants, who by your command cut divers oaks and other trees in the wood of Cheddre, within our forest of Menydep, pertaining to the manor of Cheddre which is of the ancient demesne of the crown of England, and (which) you hold at fee farm, without the view of the foresters and officers, and against the assize of the forest, you caused our said foresters and officers to be cited to answer before you, and because they did not appear before you, you fulminated the sentence of excommunication on them in contempt of us and the right of our crown. We prohibit that you attempt anything which may turn to the prejudice of us or of our crown, and if anything has been unduly attempted by you or yours we will cause it to be revoked without delay.

Witness ourself at York, 30 Jan., in the 7th year of our reign.

[Note in the margin.]

Be it remembered that on the 13th day of March, A.D. 1332, John, clerk of Matthew Pecche, living at Pedertone, before the

bishop of Bath and Wells, at Wyvelescombe, being interrogated, confessed that he had obtained this royal prohibition to the bishop presented by the said John there.

Present, Sir Hugh de Langelonde, knight, Thomas, vicar of Wyvelescombe, &c.

838. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command that you cause Richard, vicar of Stoweye, your clerk, to come before our justices at Westminster, in five weeks from Easter Day, to answer to Thomas atte Lode of a plea wherefore he, together with Henry Wason, John Bisschop, of Netherstaweye, Richard atte More, Robert Le Muleward, William Norman, Adam Cofyn, William Le Sopere, William Grundy, Thomas Stoke, Thomas Dun, John Botel, and William Dyotessone, with force and arms broke the close of the said Thomas atte Lode, at Netherstaweye, and depastured his grass to the value of 60*s.* with certain beasts, and cut his trees and carried away the underwood of the hedges to the value of 10*li.*

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, the 30th day of Dec., in the 6th year of our reign.

839. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Fol. 113b. Because Andrew de Welles, one of the executors of the will of Nicholas de Wedergraue, deceased, is a clerk and beneficed in your docese, and has no lay fee by which he can be distrained. We command you that you distrain the said Andrew by his ecclesiastical goods, that he be before the barons of our Exchequer on the morrow of the close of Easter to answer to us, together with John Uppehulle, another of the executors, and Adam de Chelleworth, tenant of the lands and tenements which were of the said Nicholas, touching 10*li.* annually which the same Nicholas owes us for the custody of the lands and tenements in Overwere being in the hand of King Edward, our father by reason of the minority of John ap Adam.

Witness Master J. de Hildesl', at Westminster, 20 Feb., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused Andrew de Welles to be distrained as is commanded.

840. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because Thomas de Schirrugge is a clerk and beneficed in your diocese and has not a lay fee by which he can be distrained, as is testified before us by trustworthy men. We command you, as heretofore, that you distrain the said Thomas by his ecclesiastical goods, so that he be before the barons of our Exchequer on the morrow of the close of Easter to render an account of the issues of the stannaries of Devon, and the water of Dertemuth, for the time which he had the custody thereof by the commission of the Lord Edward, our father.

Witness Master J. de Hildesleye, at Westminster, the 2nd day of March, in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. Thomas de Shirrugge is not beneficed in our diocese. Before this we never received your writ against the said clerk.

841. The King to Bishop Ralph.

We remind you that we lately asked that you would make us a subsidy for the marriage of Eleanor, our dearest sister, and the noble man the earl of Geale, count of Gueldres, and you have not taken care to answer us, whereat we wonder. Therefore we ask you again, and do you signify what you will do by the bearer of these presents.

Witness ourself, at Pontefract, 12 Feb., in the 7th year of our reign.

842. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you as heretofore, that you cause to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of the rector of Cedene to the value of 6*s.* 8*d.*, and from those of the prebendary of Jatton, 10*s.*, which you lately sequestered. Also from the prebendary of Whitchurch, 8*s.* From the prebendary of Lutton, 6*s.* 8*d.* The rector of Codecombe and Luggebere, 6*s.* 8*d.* Pension of the nuns of Barwe, 2*s.* 8*d.* For which the abbot of Glaston, late collector of a tenth granted by the clergy, is charged in his account. And when you levy those monies cause them to be paid to the abbot. Fol. 114

Witness Master J. de Hildesleye, at Westminster, 19 Feb., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused 6*s.* 8*d.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of the rector of Cedene, and 10*s.* from those of prebendary of Jatton. We could find no goods of the prebendary of Whitchurch. We have caused the goods of the prebendary of Lutton to be sequestered to the whole sum. The rector of Codecombe and Luggebere and the nuns of Barwe showed letters of acquittance.

843. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Andrew de Welles, parson of the church of Shepham, executor of the will of Nicholas de Wedergraue, to come before our justices, at Westminster, in five weeks from Easter day to answer to Robert Durlynge, executor of the will of Nicholas de Wavyndon, of a plea that he, together with John Danyel and John Depe, co-executors of the said Andrew of the will of the said Nicholas de Wedergraue, render to him 60*li.* 15*s.* 2*d.* which he unjustly withholds.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 26 Nov., in the 6th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

844. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore, that you cause Andrew de Welles, parson of the church of Shepham, to come before our justices at Westminster, to answer to John, son of Walter de Gloucestre, of a plea that he, together with John Danyel and John Depe, render to him 100*l.*

Witness W. de Herle, 19 Feb., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

845. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you as many times we commanded that you distrain William Le Stabler, vicar of Inglescombe, so that he be before the barons of our Exchequer on the quindene of Easter to answer to us and Andrew de Welles, John Daniel and John Uppehulle, executors of the will of Nicholas de Wedergraue.

Witness Master J. de Hildesley, 23 Feb., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused William Le Stabler to be distrained. We did not receive your writ at which you wonder, as in this writ you make mention of it.

846. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Andrew de Welles, parson of the church of Shepham, to come before our justices at Westminster, in three weeks from Easter day to answer to the master of the Hospital of St. Bartholomew, of Smythfeld, London, of a plea that he, together with John Danyel, render him an account for the time he was his bailiff in Henton St. George.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 6 Feb., in the 7th year of our reign.

847. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because Thomas de London, parson of the church of Meriet, Fol. 115. ought to have paid to Bernardino Dyni and Peter Bernardini, merchants of Florence, 100 marks on the feast of All Saints, and has not yet paid them. We command you, as heretofore, that you cause the said money to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the said Thomas so that you have it in our chancery on the morrow of the Ascension next.

Witness ourself at Couwyke, 24 March, in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. We could find no ecclesiastical goods in our diocese.

848. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because John de Malmesbury, parson of the church of Fol. 115. Herthill, of the county of York, and Thomas de London, parson of the church of Chilbalton, of the county of Southampton ought to have paid to Master Nicholas de Hagheman 240 marks, and you signified to us that you caused of the goods of the said Thomas to be sequestered to the value of 30*s*. We command you that you cause the said 30*s*., and also 107 marks and 10*s*. to be levied.

Witness ourself at Couwyke, 13 March, 7 Edward iii.

Return. We caused nothing to be levied because we could find no ecclesiastical goods, except goods to the value of 30*s.*, which were sequestered before, and they yet remain under sequestration because we could find no purchasers.

849. The King to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer.

We granted to Edward de Bohun the rent of £54 for the manors of Congresbury, Cheddre, and Axebridge. We command you that you acquit the bishop of the rent aforesaid and the arrears.

Witness, &c., 25 June, in the 6th year.

850. The King to Bishop Ralph.

Paternitatem vestram rogamus et requirimus ex affectu, quatinus nos et fideles nostros qui nobiscum ad partes Marchie Scocie pro defensione et salvacione regni nostri contra inimicorum nostrorum aggressus jam profecti sumus, apud Altissimum in cujus manu corda sunt regum, et per quem principes dominantur, devotis precibus et salutaribus hostiis studeatis assidue commendare, et ad hos clerum et populum, abbates, priores, ac ceteros religiosos vestre diocesis salubribus exortacionibus commovere, ut Deus et Dominus noster vestris et ipsorum precibus complacatus, sic nos et dictos fideles nostros in assumpto negocio ad honorem suum pro defensione dicti regni per suorum dirigat semitam mandatorum, ut status ejusdem regni nostri, cujus regimen ipso disponente nobis licet insufficientibus meritis est commissum, nobis et subditis nostris sit pacificus et tranquillus ad decus et honorem sancte universalis ecclesie, et catholice fidei incrementum, vestramque ac commissi nobis populi pacem perpetuam et quietem.

Datum apud Nouum Castrum super Tynam xxiij die Aprilis anno regni nostri septimo. *c.f.* "Wilkin's Concilia" under date.

851. Writ to Bishop Ralph to levy 6*s.* 8*d.* from the goods of the prebendary of Lutton under sequestration, and 8*s.* from those of the prebendary of Whitchurch, and to pay the monies to the

abbot of Glaston together with 4*li.* 8*s.* 4*d.* levied from the goods of the prebendary of Tymbrescomb, the rector of Wroxhale, the vicar of Montacute, the rector of Moncketon, the prebendary of Jatton, and the rector of Cedene.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at Westminster, the 12th day of May, 7 Edw. iii.

Return. We have caused 6*s.* 8*d.* to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the prebendary of Lytton. We have not levied 8*s.* from the goods of the prebendary of Whitchurch, because no goods are found there.

852. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because our sheriff of the county of Somerset has returned before the barons of our Exchequer that Master Lawrence de la Barre is a clerk, and has not a lay fee in his bailiwick by which he can be attached, and that he is beneficed in your diocese. We command you that you distrain the same Master Lawrence by all his ecclesiastical benefices in your diocese that he be before the barons of our Exchequer, at York, on the quindene of Holy Trinity, to acquit the abbot of Glaston, collector of a tenth granted to us by the clergy in the first year of our reign, for 42*li.*, which the abbot by our command delivered to the same Lawrence as attorney of Isabella, Queen of England, our mother. Fol. 115b.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at Westminster, the 10th day of May, in the 7th year of our reign.

853. Writ to Bishop Ralph to distrain Andrew de Welles, one of the executors of Nicholas de Wedergraue, to be before the barons of the Exchequer, at York, on the quindene of Holy Trinity to answer to the King touching a rent of 10*li.* for lands in Overwere. Fol. 116.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at Westminster, 4 May, 7 Edw. iii.

Return. We have caused Andrew de Welles to be distrained as is commanded.

854. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because Richard, vicar of Worle, executor of the will of Walter de Preston, late executor of John de Pountoyse, bishop of

Winchester, is a clerk of your diocese, we command you to cause him to come before the barons of our Exchequer, at York, on the octaves of St. John the Baptist to satisfy us, together with William de Staundford and his other co-executors, for 140*li.* 11*s.* 3*d.* demanded under the name of the said bishop for a subsidy of a moiety of his temporalities and spiritualities in the diocese of Winchester.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at Westminster, 24 April, in the 9th year of our reign.

855. Writ to the Bishop to distrain Thomas de Schirugge to to be before the barons of the Exchequer, at York, on the quindene of St. Michael to rénder an account of the issues of the Stannaries of Devon, and the water of Dertemuthe.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 20 July, in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. The same Thomas is not beneficed in our diocese.

856. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as many times, that from the ecclesiastical goods of the clerks underwritten in your diocese you cause the monies to be made. Viz.—

From Ralph de Subbury, clerk, for the farm of the manors of Siston and Frompton, and arrears of the same, 1408*li.*

From Master William de Istlep, late treasurer of Ireland, for the monies received from Hugh Le Despenser, the younger, upon buying victuals for the expedition of the war of Scotland, 250*li.*

From William de Breton, parson of the church of Bredone, for having a writ, 20*s.*

From John de Norton, clerk, for monies received from the burgesses of Bristol for the wages of mariners, 296*li.* 8*s.* 1*d.*

So that you have them at our Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of St. Michael to be paid to us.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 14 July in the 7th year of our reign.

By the Great Roll of the 3rd year of the now King, and the Ex-annual Roll, in Gloucester, and a certain schedule delivered

at the Exchequer by Thomas de Rodbergh, late sheriff of Gloucester, which is in the bag of "Responciones Vicecomitum," of the 4th year of the now King.

Return. We have not the monies before you because Ralph de Sobbury and the others are not beneficed in our diocese. The other writ did not come to us or to our notice (cognizance).

857. Writ to Bishop Ralph to have 28*s.* 8*d.* of the ecclesiastical goods of William Ruspyn, parson of the church of Widecomb, before the justices, at York, on the octaves of St. Michael to render to the prior of Bath, which he detains.

Also 7*s.* 2*d.* which he made from the goods of the same William.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 18 June in the 7th year of our reign.

858. Writ to Bishop Ralph to cause 8*s.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of the prebendary of Whitchurch, and when they are levied to pay them to the abbot of Glaston together with 4*li.* 15*s.* levied from the prebendary of Tymbrescomb, the rector of Wroxhale, the vicar of Montacute, the rector of Moneketon, the prebendary of Iatton, the rector of Cedene, the prebendary of Lutton. If the prebendary of Whitchurch shows an acquittance, prefix a day for him that he be at our Exchequer on the quindene of St. Michael. Fol. 117.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 24 July, in the 7th year of our reign.

By the Roll of particulars of the taxation of the spiritualities of the clergy of the diocese aforesaid, and by the writ returned on the quindene of Holy Trinity, in the 7th year.

Return. We have sequestrated of the prebendary of Whitchurch to the value of 8*s.* but purchasers have not been found.

859. Writ to Bishop Ralph to cause 30*s.* to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of Thomas de London sequestrated, and also 107 marks and 10*s.*

Witness ourself at Twedemouth, 10 June, in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. We have those 30*s.* when you send for them. We have

not levied more, because Thomas de London is not now parson of the church of Meriet, but is parson of the church of Stoke Abbatis, in the diocese of Sarum, and was for some time before the receipt of this writ.

860. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

It appears to us by inspection of the Rolls of our Exchequer that John Say, William Homond, William de Hyneton, and Richard de Kyngton came before the barons of our Exchequer and mainprised Andrew de Welles, John Danyel, and John Uppehull, executors of the will of Nicholas de Wedergraue, to
Fol. 118. satisfy us to the sum of 50*li.*, and that 91*li.* 6*s.* 4*d.* are demanded at the said Exchequer from the said Nicholas de Wedergraue for the remainder of his account of the issues of the temporalities of the abbey of Glaston from 21 Nov. in the 16th year of the late King E. our father, until the 12th day of March next following.

We command you, as heretofore, that you cause 9*li.* to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the same Andrew in your diocese, and have them at our Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of St. Michael.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 24 July, in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. This writ came so slowly to us that we could not send it for execution. We never received the other writ as you allege in this writ.

861. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as many times, that you cause 140*li.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of Master Thomas de London, parson of the church of Muchelmersch, which the same Master Thomas, Master Thomas de Ledebury, dean of Hereford, and Master John de Malmesbury, parson of the church of Fulmerston, in the court of the lord E., our father, before his barons of the Exchequer, 11 Dec., in the 18th year of his reign, acknowledged that they and each of them owed to Master Nicholas de Hagheman, parson of the church of Swyndon, and Richard de Bourne, parson of the church of Wroxhale, so that you have

those monies at our Exchequer, at York, on the quindene of St. Michael.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 10 July, in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. There is no such parson nor church in our diocese. Thomas de London, rector of Stoke Abbatis, in the diocese of Sarum, was rector of Meriet, of our diocese.

862. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Wishing, for certain causes, that the treasurer and barons of our Exchequer be certified what churches, pensions, or portions in churches, the prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England, has to his proper uses in your diocese, as well taxed for a tenth with the clergy, as not taxed, and which thereof belonged to the said hospital and which to the master and brethren the Knights Templars in England from olden time, and of the true annual value of each. We command you that, fuller information being had thereupon, you certify the said treasurer and barons on the octaves of St. Michael.

Witness Master R. de Ayleston, archdeacon of Berks, our treasurer, at York, 26 July, in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. This writ came so slowly that we could not execute on account of the shortness of the time.

863. Writ to Bishop Ralph, to cause Andrew de Welles, parson of Schepham, to be before the justices, at York, on the quindene of St. Michael to answer to the master of the hospital of St. Bartholomew, of Smythefeld, London, of a plea that he render to him an account for the time he was his bailiff in Henton St. George.

Witness W. de Herle, at Westminster, 7th May, in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

864. The King to Bishop Ralph.

You promised us 40*li.* for the marriage of Eleanor, our sister, with the Earl of Gerle, and for the expedition of arduous affairs touching us and our realm. We command you, that you send the said 40*li.* to our Exchequer, at York, on the quindene of

St. Hilary. If by chance you do not pay the money at that day, we will cause it to be levied from your lands and chattels. And send back this writ.

Witness Master R. de Ailleston, archdeacon of Berks, our treasurer, at York, 7 Nov., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. Before Christmas last we caused the 40*li.* to be paid to our lord the King being in the parts of Marleburgh, diocese of Sarum; which Sir R. de Tanton, keeper of the King's wardrobe, then received by the royal command, and made us a sufficient acquittance under the privy seal according to the form of the copy enclosed in these presents.

865. Writ to Bishop Ralph to certify the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer, as to the churches, &c., which the prior of St. John of Jerusalem has to his proper uses (as in the preceding writ No. 862) on the octaves of St. Hilary.

Witness Master R. de Ailleston, archdeacon of Berks, at York, 12 Oct., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. We first received this writ on the 4th day before the feast of the Epiphany for the execution of which it behoved us to write to all the archdeacons and deans throughout all our diocese. Wherefore considering the difficulty of executing the same and the risks of the roads, with the shortness of the time, we could not certify you.

866. Writ to Bishop Ralph to cause 9*li.* to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of Andrew de Welles (as in the writ of 24 July, 7 Edw. iii, No. 863).

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 14 Oct., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. We received this writ on the 3rd day before the feast of the Epiphany, and so, considering the shortness of the time, we could not levy the money.

Fol. 119. 867. Writ to Bishop Ralph to cause the sums underwritten to be made (as in the writ of 14 July, 7 Edw. iii, No. 856).

Return. Not beneficed in our diocese.

868. Writ to Bishop Ralph to distrain Thomas de Schirugge

to be before the barons of the Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of St. Hilary, to render an account of the issues of the Stannaries of Devon, and the water of Dertemuth.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 26 Oct., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. Not beneficed in our diocese.

869. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause to be made as well from those goods and chattels of John de Langport, parson of the church of Claverton, which you lately sequestrated to the value of 100*s.*, as from the other ecclesiastical goods of the said John in your diocese 521*li.* 6*s.* 6*d.*, which Margaret, who was the wife of Edmund, late earl of Kent, deceased, executrix of the will of the said earl recovered against the same John before the barons of our Exchequer.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 23 Oct., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. We send you 100*s.* from the goods sequestrated. We have not made the money from his goods, because the same John resigned his church of Clavertone, nor can any goods or chattels be found there.

870. Edwardus, &c., venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia Bathensi et Wellensi episcopo, salutem. Quia super diversis et arduis negociis nos et statum regni nostri specialiter contingentibus Parliamentum nostrum apud Ebor die Lune proximo ante festum sancti Petrie in Cathedra futurum tenere, et vobiscum ac cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus dicti regni colloquium habere ordinavimus et tractatum. Vobis mandamus in fide, &c. Premunientes priorem necnon decanum, &c.

Teste me ipso, apud Wallynford, secundo die Januarii anno regni nostri septimo.

Per breve de priuato sigillo.

871. Writ to Bishop Ralph to cause the money underwritten to be levied.

From Ralph de Sudbury, 1408*li.*

From Master Walter de Istlep, 250*li.*

From William Le Breton, parson of Bredone, 20*s.*

From John de Notton, clerk, 296*li.* 8*s.* 1*d.*

And to have the money at the Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of the close of Easter.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 23 Jan., in the 7th year of our reign.

[See No. 856].

Return. The clerks contained in this writ have no benefice in our diocese.

872. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore, that you cause 516*li.* 7*s.* 6*d.* of those 521*li.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of John de Langeport, which Margaret, who was the wife of Edmund, late earl of Kent, deceased, recovered against the same John, before the barons of the Exchequer. So that you have that money at York on the quindene of Easter, to be paid to the said Margaret.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 27 Feb., in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. We have not the money before you, because John de Langport is not parson of the church of Claverton, but of Stoke Abbatis, at which said church or elsewhere in our diocese no ecclesiastical goods of his are found.

873. Writ to Bishop Ralph to certify the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer, at York, on the quindene of Easter, as to the churches, &c., which the prior of St. John of Jerusalem has to his proper uses, &c. [c.f. No. 862].

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 8 Feb., in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. Istud breve tarde recepimus pro possibili . , . inquiri fecimus de contentis.

Inuenimus . . . . infrascriptus habet in proprios usus in diocesi nostra ecclesiam de Kynnersden que valet per annum xviij. marcas: ecclesiam de Northpederton cum capella que valet per annum. xl. ti. et. xx. d: ecclesiam de [Halse] que valet per annum. x. li: ecclesiam de Durston que valet per annum. V.S. ij. d. ob: ecclesiam de Bromfeld que valet per

annum. x. marcas. Idem prior percipit in ecclesia de [Bekyngton] annuam pensionem. xx. s. In ecclesia de [Poulet.] annuam pensionem. xiij. s. iiij. d. De vicario de Northpederton annuam pensionem. iiij. marcarum, unum quarterium bladi de Tolnero. xj. d. De Hospitale sancti Johannis de Brugge annuam pensionem. viij. s. De prioratu de Kannyngton annuam pensionem. vij. s. De ecclesia de Hethfeld annuam pensionem. xviij. s. De ecclesia de . . . . . annuam pensionem. ij. s. De vicario de Netherstaweye annuam pensionem. ij. s. Et hec omnia supradicto ad Priorem Hospitalis sancti Johannis ab antiquo spectabant . . . . Prior habet in proprios usus ecclesiam . . . . Bristoll' que ad Magistrum et Fratres milicie templi ab antiquo spectabat. Non . . . . . Prior percipit de vicario eiusdem annuam pensionem. xxvj. s. viij. d. et de terris eidem ecclesie annexis . . . . . solidorum.

874. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause 38*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to be made from ecclesiastical goods of Thomas de London, parson of the church of Meriet, Master Stephen de Ledebury, dean of Hereford, Master John de Malmesbury, rector of Fulmerestone, Master Nicholas de Hagheman, rector of Swyndon, Richard de Bourne, rector of Wroxhale, clerks, of your diocese, for a debt of 160*li.* which they owe us of the money acknowledged to Edmund, late earl of Arundell, in the court of the Lord E. our father, before the barons of his Exchequer, 11 Dec., in the 18th year of our same father. So that you have the same 38*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* at our Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of the close of Easter, to be paid to us by reason of the forfeiture of the said earl.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 7 Feb., in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. The clerks within written have no ecclesiastical goods in our diocese.

875. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

It appears that John Say, William Homond, William de Hineton, and Richard de Kyngtone came before the barons of our Exchequer and mainprised Andrew de Welles, John Danyel, Fol. 120.

and John de Uppehull, executors of the will of Nicholas de Wedergraue, deceased, to satisfy us for the debts which the same Nicholas owed us, to the sum of 50*li.*

We command you to levy 9*li.* from your ecclesiastical goods of the same Andrew in your diocese so that you have that money at our Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of the close of Easter.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 20 Jan., in the 7th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused to be sequestered of the goods of Andrew de Welles to the value of 50*s.*, but we could not levy the money from them for lack of purchasers.

876. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because our sheriff of Somerset returned at our Exchequer on the morrow of St. Hilary last that William Le Stabler has no lay fee in his bailiwick, we command you that you distrain the said William by his ecclesiastical benefices in your diocese so that he be before the barons of our Exchequer, at York, on the quindene of Easter, to answer to us and Andrew de Welles, John Danyel, and John Uppehull, executors of the will of Nicholas de Wedergraue.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 26 Feb., in the 8th year of our reign.

We have caused William Le Stabler to be distrained.

877. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause the monies underwritten to be made from the goods of the clerks underwritten.

Ralph de Subbury, 1408*li.*
Walter de Istlep, 250*li.*
William de Bretone, 20*s.*
John de Norton, 296*li.* 8*s.* 1*d.*

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 12 April, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. None of the clerks are beneficed in our diocese.

878. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

John Say, William Hammond, William de Hineton, and Richard de Kyngton mainprised Andrew de Wells, &c., exe-

cutors of the will of Nicholas de Wedergraue to the sum of 50*li.*, and 91*li.* 6*s.* 4*d.* are demanded of our Exchequer. Cause 9*li.* to be levied from the goods of the said Andrew sequestrated by you and from his other ecclesiastical goods, so that you have the money at York on the octaves of Holy Trinity.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 8 April, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. We have not the 50*s.* before you, nor the other monies, because the goods we sequestrated remain for lack of purchasers. Also we cannot find more ecclesiastical goods to sequestrate.

879. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 120b.

Because John de Langeport is a clerk and beneficed in your diocese, in the church of Claverton, and has no lay fee, We command you that you cause the said John to come before the barons of our Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of Holy Trinity to render to Philippa, Queen of England, our dearest consort, an account for the time he was receiver of the money of our said consort, at Tikhull, Gringele, and Wheteleye.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 9 April, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. John de Langeport, clerk, is not rector of Claverton, but of the church of Stokegiffard. Which said John we have caused to be forewarned.

880. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 121.

We command you that you cause 38*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of Thomas de London, parson of Kitenare, Master Stephen de Ledebury, dean of Hereford, Master John de Malmesbury, rector of Fulmerestone, Master Nicholas de Hagheman, rector of Swyndon, and Richard de Bourne, rector of Wroxhale, for a debt to Edmund, earl of Arundel.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 22 April, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. Thomas de London has no ecclesiastical goods. The other clerks are not beneficed in our diocese.

881. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Roger, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, signified to the barons of our Exchequer on the octaves of St. Michael last that Philip de la Lee, parson of the church of Bledone, late parson of the church of Forton, is a clerk of your diocese. We command you, as heretofore, that you cause 38*li.* 10*s.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of the said Philip, of the 41*li.* which he acknowledged that he owed to John Clarel, archdeacon of Stafford.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 7 May, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. No goods found.

882. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore. that you cause Richard de Hale, parson of the church of Chieu, to come before our justices, at York, to answer to John de Stoke of a plea that he render to him 6*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.*

Witness W. de Herle, at York, 26 April, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. Richard de Hale, late parson of the church of Chieu, is dead.

883. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause John de Clife, parson of the church of Chiselbergh, to come before our justices, at York, on the quindene of St. Michael to answer to John de Sancto Paulo, John de Tiddeswell, Nicholas de Fontibus, and William de Brauncewell, executors of the testament of Master Henry de Clife, of a plea that he render to them 40 marks.

Witness J. de Stonore, at York, 8 June, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. Johannem de Clife clericum infrascriptum moneri fecimus.

884. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause 38*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to be made from the goods and ecclesiastical benefices of Thomas de London, parson of the church of Kytenare, Master Stephen de Ledebury, &c., for a debt of 140*li.* which they owe us.

Witness H. Le Scrope, at York, 9 July, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. The clerks contained in this writ are not beneficed in our diocese except Thomas de London, parson of Kitenare, whose benefice is so poor and small that it is scarcely sufficient for a priest.

885. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because Roger de Pikesle, one of the executors of the testament of Hugh de Langelonde, late sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, is a clerk in your diocese and has no lay fee, we command you that you distrain the same Roger, so that he be before the barons of our Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of St. Michael with all things touching the account of the said Hugh, to render to us, together with Margaret, who was the wife of the same Hugh, an account of the sale of the goods and chattels which were of Roger de Mortuo Mari, late earl of March, Simon de Bereford, John Mautravers, the younger, Thomas de Gourneye, Bogo de Baiocis, John Wyard, John Deueroill, and William de Okele, beyond those goods which were retained for the sustentation of the same in our hand by the view and testimony of Henry de Gilden, William de Bathon, and Matthew de Crauthorn. We also command you that you distrain the said William de Bathon, that he be before our aforesaid barons at the day and place aforesaid.

Witness H. Le Scrope, at York, 11 July, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. We have distrained Roger de Pikesle and William de Bathon.

886. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as several times, that you return 50*s.* to our Exchequer, and cause 9*li.* to be levied from the other goods and ecclesiastical chattels of Andrew de Welles.

Witness H. Le Scrope, at York, 11 June, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. We send you the 50*s.* We have also sequestered from the ecclesiastical goods of the same Andrew, to the value of 40*s.*

Fol. 122.

887. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Distrain John de Langeport, beneficed in the church of Stokegiffard, that he be before the barons of our Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of St. Michael, to render an account to Philippa, Queen of England, for the time he was receiver at Tykhulle, Gryngele, and Wheteleye.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 17 June, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. We have distrained John de Langeport.

888. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Robert de Alewy, late parson of the church of Berghby, to come before our justices at York, on the quindene of St. Michael, to answer to Walter Prest, of Meltone Moubray, of a plea that he render to him two sacks of wool of the value of 20*li.*

Witness J. de Stonore, at York, 10 June, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. Robert de Alewy, clerk, is not beneficed in our diocese that is known; but Richard de Alewy, late rector of Bleodone, has now got the church of Forton, Coventry, and Lichfield diocese.

889. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Master John de Pikesleye, your clerk, executor of the testament of John de Bello Campo, to come before our justices at York, to answer to Matilda, who was the wife of John de Bello Campo, of a plea wherefore, whereas according to the custom in the county of Somerset, wives after the death of their husbands ought to have their reasonable parts of the goods and chattels which were of their husbands, the same Master John, together with Roger de Beauchamp withholds her reasonable part to the value of 40*li.*

Witness W. de Herle, 3 June, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. This writ came so slowly that we could not execute it.

890. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Philip de Bathon, parson of Northstoke, and Peter de Sevenoke, your clerks, to come before

our justices at York, on the quindene of St. Michael, to answer to Master Thomas de Haselschagh and Peter de Schaldeford, executors of the testament of Master Robert de Haselschagh, of a plea that the said Philip render to them 12*li.*, and that the said Peter render to them 34*li.*

Witness W. de Herle, at York, 17 April, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. This writ came to us, at London, so slowly that we could not execute it.

891. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore, that you cause 516*li.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of John de Langeport, parson of Stokegiffard, formerly parson of Claverton, of those 521*li.* 7*s.* 6*d.* which Margaret, who was the wife of Edmund, late earl of Kent, deceased, recovered against the same John.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 7 July, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. We received this writ so slowly that we could not levy the monies.

892. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore, that you cause Rayner de Cotom, parson of Hentone, to come before our justices, at York, on the morrow of St. Martin to answer to Ralph de Brantyngham of a plea that he render to him 10*li.*

Witness J. de Stonore, 16 June, in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

893. Edwardus, &c., venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi salutem. Ad hoc in terris constitute sunt a Deo principum secularium potestates, ut presidentes regimini plebis Christi bonos confoveant et pravorum excessus condigne puniant et reforment.

Pensantes itaque commissum nobis diuinitus gladii temporalis exercitium ac intuentes superbiam furam et nequiciam sceleratam Scotorum, qui violato fidelitatis et homagii sui debito contra nos et confederatos nostros de guerra jam perdicionaliter et hostiliter insurgere presumpserunt, mala quamplurima tam in

Anglia quam in Scotia perpetrantes et ad pejora, quod absit, processuri, nisi conspirate sue malicie cicius et forcius obvietur de diffinito parliamenti nostri nuper apud Westmonasterium convocato consilio versus partes Scotie tam pro defensione terrarum nostrarum ibidem quam regni nostri Anglie, ad reprimendam perversorum maliciam disposuimus quod jam arripuimus iter nostrum. Verum cum in expedicione tam ardua quam ex debito suscepti regiminis suscepimus ut oportet plus de superne virtutis assistencia quam de terrena potencia, plus in oracionibus fidelium quam armatorum cuneis confidamus; paternitatem vestram affectuose requirimus et rogamus, quatinus nos et nostrum exercitum ad partes predictas pro bono publico sub timore Dei confidenter et humiliter properantes, divine propitiationis dextere; que quibus vult victoriam inpartitur devotis oracionum suffragiis, et aliis pietatis operibus studeatis sedulo commendare, et ad hoc clerum et populum seculares et religiosos vestre diocesis monitis salutaribus efficaciter inducatis ut ipse dominancium dominus eorum precibus et meritis complacatus, super nos et nostros rorem uberem sue benedictionis infundat, actusque nostros in suo beneplacito regat et dirigat, ac nobis progressum felicem, gratiosum aggressum, et regressum misericorditer tribuat gloriosum, ut sibi cedat ad laudem et gloriam, nobis ad meritum subditis nostris ad commodum et solamen, et ecclesie ac toti regno, cui licet insufficientibus meritis presidemus, ad statum pacificum et quietam.

Teste me ipso apud Ebor' xxxiij [1] (?) die Octobris, anno regni nostri octauo.

894. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Walter de Hulle is a clerk of your diocese. We command you that you distrain the said Master Walter by his ecclesiastical benefices that he be before the barons of our Exchequer, at York, on the quindene of St. Hilary to answer to John de Tydilmyngton, clerk of William de Stowe, clerk of our Exchequer, for 40*s.* which he owes him.

Witness Master J. de Hildesle, at York, 5 Oct., in the 8th year of our reign.

[1] 3 in Wilkins.

Return. Distringi fecimus.

895. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore, that you cause Master Gilbert de Scheptone, your clerk, to come before our justices, at York, on the quindene of St. Hilary to answer to John de Aluyngton of a plea that he render to him 40*s*. Fol. 123.

Witness W. de Herle, at York, 20 Oct., in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

896. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause John Uggel, parson of the church of Southcatebury, to come before our justices, at York, on the quindene of St. Hilary to answer to John de Croukern of a plea that he render to him 40*s*.

Witness W. de Herle, at York, 28 Oct., in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus

897. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Philip de Bathon, parson of the church of Northstoke, and Peter de Sevenoke, your clerks, to come before our justices, at York, on the quindene of St. Hilary to answer to Master Thomas de Haselchaghe and Peter de Schaldeford of a plea that the said Philip render to them 12*li*., and that the said Peter render to them 34*li*.

Return. Citari fecimus et moneri.

898. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore, that you cause Master John de Pikesleye to come before our justices on the octaves of St. Hilary to answer to Matilda who was the wife of John de Bello Campo, of a plea that he together with Roger de Beauchamp refused to render to her a reasonable part of the goods and chattels which were of her said husband.

Witness W. de Herle, 18 Oct., in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

899. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as several times we have commanded, that you cause 40*s*. to be levied from those goods and ecclesiastical benefices of Andrew de Welles which you sequestrated.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 18 Oct., in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. We received this writ in the more remote parts of our diocese near Devon wherefore we could not execute it.

900. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause 38*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to be made from the goods of Thomas de London, parson of Kytenare. Master Stephen de Ledebury, dean of Hereford, Master John de Malmesbury, rector of Lanwaynard, Master Nicholas de Haghe-man, rector of Swyndone, and Richard de Bourne, rector of Wroxhale, clerks of your diocese, for the monies of Edmund, late earl of Arundell, which they owe to us.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 10 Dec., in the 8th year of our reign.

Return. The clerks contained in this writ are not beneficed in our diocese except Thomas de London. We could find no goods on account of the poverty of the said benefice.

Fol. 124. 901. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Walter de Newynton, parson of the church of Hemyngton, to come before our justices, at York, on the quindene of St. Hilary to answer to John de Ettewelle of a plea that he render to him 100 marks which are in arrear of an annual rent of 100*s.*

Witness W. de Herle, 24 Oct., in the 8th year of our reign.

902. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

You and the other prelates and the clergy of the province of Canterbury granted us a tenth. We commanded by writ of our great seal that you cause fit men to be chosen to collect the said tenth in your diocese, so that they pay one moiety of the money on the feast of the Purification and the other moiety on the feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist, and that you certify their names to the treasurer and barons of our Exchequer; you have not taken care to certify the names.

We command you that you cause the treasurer and barons of our Exchequer, at York, to be certified of the names of those you have appointed to collect the same tenth on the morrow of the close of Easter next to come.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 24 Feb., in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. Bishop Ralph to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer.

Nos Priorem Tantonie in archidiaconatu Tantonie ac Priorem de Bruton in tota nostra diocesi, dicto archidiaconatu Tantonie dumtaxat excepto, ad dictam decimam colligendam levandam et vobis terminis assignatis soluendam deputavimus.

Lidyard, 4 April, A.D. 1335.

903. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because Robert de Tanton, clerk, late keeper of our wardrobe, who has closed his last day, was bound to us in divers debts. We command you that you cause the ecclesiastical goods, which by inquisition it may appear to you that the said Robert had to be kept under safe sequestration.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 37 (!) Feb. in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. Omnia bona, &c., fecimus sequestrari.

904. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as several times, that you cause 40*s.* to be levied from the goods of Andrew de Welles sequestrated, and 6*li.* 10*s.* from the other goods of the same Andrew.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 12 Feb., in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. We send 40*s.* We have also sequestrated to the value of 10*s.* from the goods of the same Andrew but we could not levy the money for lack of purchasers.

905. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause 38*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to be made from the goods of Thomas de London, &c., which they owe us of the money of Edmund, late earl of Arundell.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 6 Feb., in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. The clerks are not beneficed in our diocese except Thomas de London in whose benefice we could find no goods.

906. Breve regium pro Parliamento.

Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia Batho-

nensi et Wellensi episcopo salutem. Quia super diversis et arduis negociis nos et statum regni nostri et aliarum terrarum nostrarum specialiter contingentibus Parliamentum nostrum apud Ebor in Crastino Ascencionis Domini proximo futuro tenere et vobiscum, ac cum ceteris prelatibus, magnatibus, et proceribus dicti regni colloquium habere et tractatum. Vobis mandamus, &c. Premunientes priorem et decanum, &c.

Teste me ipso apud Notyngham primo die Aprilis anno regni nostro nono.

907. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause John de Pykesleye, executor of the testament of John de Bello Campo, to come before our justices, at York, to answer to Matilda who was the wife of John de Bello Campo that he render to her her reasonable part of the goods which were of the said John, formerly her husband.

Witness W. de Herle, at York, 14 Feb., in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. Citari fecimus.

Fol. 125. 908. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 6*li.* 10*s.* to be levied from the goods of Andrew de Welles (as before) so that you have them at our Exchequer, at York, on the quindene of Holy Trinity.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 29 April, in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. We send you 10*s.* sequestrated from the goods of Andrew de Welles. We could not find more goods or ecclesiastical chattels.

909. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore we commanded, that you cause 38*li.* 10*s.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of Philip de la Lee, parson of Bleodon, late parson of Forton, of the 41*li.* which the same Philip 21 June in the 5th year of our reign acknowledged that he owed to Master John Clarel, archdeacon of Stafford.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 1 May, in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. The writ came so slowly we could not execute it.

910. The King to the sheriff of Somerset.

Put Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells, by safe pledges that he be before us on the quindene of St. John the Baptist to show wherefore, as we have conferred upon Peter de Berkele the wardenship of the church of St. Andrew, of Wells, vacant and belonging to our gift by reason of the bishopric of Bath and Wells being in the hand of the late lord Edward, our grandfather, the same bishop endeavoured to impugn our right and conferred the same wardenship on a certain clerk of his own.

Witness ourself, at York, 6 June, in the 9th year of our reign.

911. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph.

Wishing, for certain causes, to be certified what churches and what benefices the prior and brethren of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England hold to their proper uses, &c. We command you that you certify us of the premises on this side the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary next to come.

Witness ourself at Newcastle-on-Tyne, 18 June, in the 9th year of our reign.

912. The King to Bishop Ralph.

We are now setting out towards the parts of Scotland for the defence of the holy church, the realm, lands, rights and our subjects.

Caritatem vestram deposcimus toto corde, quatinus nos et dictam nostrum exercitum jam ad dictas partes Scocie sic pro re publica properantes apud eum sine quo nichil est validum nichil sanctum continuis orationibus et piis placacionum officiis commendetis, et ad hoc clerum et populum vestre diocesis efficaciter inducatis, missas crebras celebrari, preponi populo verbum Dei et processiones devotas fieri facientes, ut vobis et ipsis more Moysi, sedulo pro nobis orantibus possimus de perfidis nostris hostibus triumphare, sicque super nos et nostros cooperantibus oracionum suffragiis diem virtutis largitas ut fauente Domino sibi progressus noster sit placidus, aggressus ipso cooperante felix et gratiosus et regressus ex super ni fusione

gratie gloriosus, ita quod ad honorem cedat sui nominis decus ecclesie nobis ad meritum et ad subjecti nobis populi predicti perpetuam quietem.

Teste me ipso apud Nouum Castrum super Tynam xxviij die Junii anno regni nostri nono.

913. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Robert de Helpeston, your clerk, to come before our justices, at York, on the quindene of St. Michael to answer to Margaret who was the wife of Edmund, earl of Kent, of a plea that he render to her his reasonable account for the time he was her bailiff in Lyton and Chetescombe.

Witness W. de Herle, at York, 7 July, in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. We could not execute this writ because we have not such Robert de Helpeston in our diocese that we know.

Fol. 126. 914. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

It appears to us by inspection of the rolls of our Exchequer that the prior of Taunton, collector of a tenth granted to us by the clergy in the archdeaconry of Taunton, is charged in his account for :—

60*s.* for the church of Stoke Curcy and Lyllynstoke.

10*s.* 8*d.* for the church of Chilton and Hidestoke.

39*s.* 6*d.* for the church of Norton.

6*d.* for the pension of the prior of Montacute, in the same church.

9*s.* for the church of Ake.

4*s.* 0½*d.* for the pension of the prior of Dunsterre in the church of Codecombe and Logebere.

13*s.* 4*d.* for the church of Sevenhampton St. Michael.

13*s.* 4*d.* for the church of Henton.

Of which there are in arrear the sums underwritten.

For the church of Stoke Curcy and Lillynstoke, 60*s.*

For the church of Chilton and Hidestoke, 5*s.* 4*d.*

For the church of Norton, 39*s.* 6*d.*

For the pension of the prior of Montacute, 6*d.*

For the church of Ake, 10*s.*

For the pension of the prior of Dunsterre, 4*s.* 0½*d.*
For the church of Seuenhampton, 6*s.* 8*d.*
For the church of Henton, 6*s.* 8*d* .

And therefore we command you that you cause the said sums to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of the debtors aforesaid.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 26 July, in the 9th year of our reign.

915. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you cause Robert de Helpeston, parson of the church of Listone, to come before our justices, at York, on the octaves of St. Michael to answer to Nicholas Corp, of London, "Peuerer," of a plea that he render to him 20*li.* 3*s.* 5*d.*

Witness W. de Herle, at York, 22 May, in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. We have no such Robert de Helpestone, parson of Listone, in our diocese.

916. Bishop Ralph to the King.

We find that the prior and brethren of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem hold in our diocese to their proper uses, the church of Halse, which is worth 10*li.* by the year. The church of Durston which is worth by the year, with the tithes of Coggelode, near Boclande, 8 marks. The church of North-pederton worth 60 marks; and the church of Kynemersdone worth 24 marks.

They have also in our diocese the advowsons of the churches of Ellesworthe, taxed at 6 marks, with a half of Tolonde, taxed at three marks, and Hethfield taxed at five marks. Moreover they take an annual pension of 2*s.* from the chapel of Bodyngdon, in the parish of Netherstanweye. An annual pension from the church of Toulonde. An annual pension of 20*s.* from the church of Bekyngton, and an annual pension of one mark from the church of Poulet. All which pertained to the hospital aforesaid from olden time. They do not hold churches or benefices in our diocese by reason of the lands which formerly were of the Templars that we know, except the

church of the Temple of Bristol, from which they take two marks annually. How much of the first fruits in our diocese is levied, or if any, or how much therefore is in arrear we could not be informed from the time of the receipt of your letters.

Banewell, 26 Aug., A.D. 1335.

917. The King to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you assist (by aid), and that you cause all your servants to assist the prior of Bruton, collector of the tenth last granted to us by the clergy in your diocese, to levy all the monies due to him by certain clerks for their spiritualities.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 24 July, in the 9th year of our reign.

918. Writ [to the Bishop].

Whereas, by the bail which Richard de Northwell, our clerk, found at our Exchequer to render an account to us for Robert de Tanton, late keeper of our wardrobe, deceased, we have granted to the same William administration of all the goods and chattels which were of the aforesaid R. de T. We command you that you cause the sequestration (if any) on the ecclesiastical goods of the same Robert to be relaxed.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 11 July, in the 9th year of our reign.

919. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you supersede the execution of our writ lately directed to you for causing 6*li.* 10*s.* to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of Andrew de Welles, one of the executors of the testament of Nicholas de Wedergraue, until the quindene of St. Michael next to come.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 16 July, in the 9th year of our reign.

Fol. 127. 920. Bishop Ralph to Masters Richard, rector of Lymington, and Thomas, rector of Cherleton Makerel. Although we committed to our very dear daughter Cecilia de Draycote, prioress of the house of Alba Aula, of Iuelcestre, the adminis-

tration of the goods of the house aforesaid, neverthelcss, trusting very much on the fidelity and industry of our very dear daughters Agnes Chaumpflour, and Agnes de Wynterbourn', sisters professed in the said house, we will that the same prioress exercise the administration aforesaid by the view and advice of the said sisters. Wherefore we command you, and each of you, that you enjoin her to ask the advice of the said sisters in exercising the affairs of the said house, and to the same sisters that they do not omit to bestow it. It has come to our ears that certain sisters of the same house walk through the streets and places of the vill of Iuelcestre and elsewhere, the modesty of their sex being altogether cast off, and they do not fear to enter the houses of secular men and suspected persons. We therefore command that you enjoin penance on those whom you shall find guilty.

Banewell, 7 Aug., A.D. 1335.

921. Commissio in negotio provisoris.

ij. Kalend. Augusti. Thomas Natus Benedicti de Bruggewater impetravit ad collationem abbatis et conventus monasterii Bristoll' ordinis sancti Augustini Wigornie diocesis. Habuit plenam commissionem donec illam dominus duxerit revocandam, subdecano et succentori ecclesie Wellensis, &c.

922. vi Id., Aug., A.D. 1335, at Banewell. Licence for Master Reginald de Buggewell, rector of Wydecombe, to study for a year in the university of Oxford.

923. Commissio in negotio provisoris.

v Id., Aug. Provision for William de Nyweton, a poor clerk of the diocese of Exeter, at the collation of the prior and convent of Taunton.

924. Bishop Ralph to Robert, perpetual vicar of Ceddre.

Thomas, perpetual vicar of Wynescomb, broken by old age, has lost the use of his eyes. We appoint you his coadjutor.

Banewelle, xiij Kal., Oct., A.D. 1335.

925. Uniuersis pateat per presentes quod nos Radulphus permissione divina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus nostram

Bathoniensum et Wellensem diocesim jure ordinario actualiter visitantes, dilectos nobis in Christo religiosos viros abbatem et conuentum monasterii beate Marie Cirencestrie Wigorn diocesis ecclesias parochiales de Frome Weluwe et Mulleburne dicte nostre diocesis in usus proprios obtinentes, ad exhibendum titulum canonicum si quem haberent super appropriacione dictarum ecclesiarum vocatos et juxta effectum vocacionis predicte coram nostro in ea parte Commissario legitime comparentes, quo ad exhibicionem ipsam ab officio nostro in pace dimisimus ista vice. In cujus rei testimonium, &c.

Datum apud Blakef[ord] quarto Non. Junii anno Domini m$^{l}$ ccc$^{mo}$ xxxiiij$^{to}$.

926. Robert, Bishop of Sarum, to Bishop Ralph.

Nicholas Thurstayn, rector of Prysshton, of your diocese, and John de Keston, perpetual vicar of Bishop's Kanynges, of our diocese, propose to exchange their benefices. We commit our offices to you.

Peueseye, xij Kal., Dec., A.D. 1334.

927. Correctiones facte in archidiaconatu Wellens.

Before John de Middelton, rector of Schepton Beauchamp, commissary of the lord bishop, on Tuesday next before the feast of SS. Perpetua and Felicitas, in the year aforesaid, in the parish of Everecrich.

William Baal de Cammel, and Sybil la Mostardmakiere. Dictus Willelmus comparuit et petit beneficium absolucionis; quo sibi impenso, sibi objecimus quia fuit diffamatus de fornicatione cum dicta Sibilla. Ipse fatebatur factum et quod clericus est. Injungimus sibi pro pentencia quod publice dicat psalterium. Et ad absolvendam dictam Sibillam in forma juris commitimus capellano parochie de Westcammel vices nostras. Objecimus etiam eidem Willelmo crimen fornicationis cum Alicia dicta de Tantona de Westcammel. Qui quidem Willelmus et Alicia ponitur . . . . se legitime ab ultima correctione coram Officiali archidiaconi Wellensis facta.

Iohanna de Samborne de Ieuele, per eundem Decanum pro incontinieta cum domino Galfrido rectore de Kyngeston juxta Ieuele. Ipsa personaliter et venit et ponitur se legitime Walterus

Serjant de Bruyton et Alicia Webbe pro adulterio. Omnes comparuerunt et ponitur se legitime. Willelmus Peres et Alicia la Webbe de Bruyton, dicta Alice per preconem juratum et personaliter compareant et fatentur. Cui injungimus quod sus. bis. Ipse non venit. Ideo vocetur.

Ricardus de Wormeswell de Bruyton, per preconem juratum pro fornicatione cum Sibilla Shortfot.

Ipse fatetur. Cui injungimus quod depascat tres pauperes.

Iohannes Paunthewebbe et Agnes Nyzthegale de Bruyton pro fornicatione. Uterque personaliter comparet et ponitur se legitime.

928. The official, keeper and administrator of the spiritual jurisdiction of the deanery of Wells, the deanery being vacant, and the chapter of Wells, to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 128.

Because it appears to us by divers certificates of Sir Robert, perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Milverton, that Robert de Cobbeheye, of the parish of Milverton, for his manifest offence in not satisfying Sir John de Byndon, chaplain, for 60*s.* in which he was condemned before the official of the dean of Wells, and although the said Robert was cited to appear before us or our commissary, nevertheless the said Robert having been forewarned at the instance of the said John by Richard Ingram, clerk, his proctor, took no care to appear.

Therefore we implore your reverend fatherhood that you will deign to write to the highness of his royal majesty for taking the said Robert.

Wells, vij Kal., April, A.D. 1335.

Excellentissimo principi ac domino suo domino Edwardo Dei gratia regi Anglie illustri domino Hibernie et duci Aquitonnie Radulphus, &c., salutem in eo per quem reges regnant et principes dominantur. Ad libertatis ecclesiastice defensionem vestre regia majestati notum facimus per presentes quod Robertus de Cobbeheye de parochia de Milverton nostre diocesis pro suis manifestis offensis in non parendo mandatis ecclesie contractis majoris excommunicationis sententia auctoritate ordinaria legitime extitit innodatus in qua per. xl. dies et amplius perseverauerit et adhuc animo indurato dampnabiliter perseverat claves sancte ecclesie contempnendo. Cum igitur sancta

mater ecclesia ultra quid faciat non habeat in premissus placeat dominacioni vestre regie majestatis contra filium ecclesie tam rebellem auxilium inpendere brachii secularis. Ad ecclesie et regni regimen diu valeat vestra excellencia in salute.

Datum apud Banewell. xj. die Augusto anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ xxxv^to^.

929. viii Kal., Sept., at Iatton. Sir Emeric, rector of Orchard, had licence to stay in the service of Roger de Welesford, from the feast of St. Michael next for a year.

930. Same day and place.

The testament of John Le Zonge, of Kyngeston Seymor, deceased, was proved before the lord, and administration was committed to Miles Le Yonge, son of the said deceased, to Alice Le Yonge, wife of the said deceased, the executors named.

931. Bishop Ralph to the official of the archdeacon of Wells.

The petition of Sir John Le Smale, chaplain, of our diocese, contained that you, intending to proceed against him *ex officio*, objected that he procured some things to be done to the prejudice of the achdeaconry of Wells, and the said John appearing before you demanded what he had procured to be done, you did not take care to hear him. Wherefore we inhibit that you attempt anything to the prejudice of the said Sir John to hinder the less free prosecution of his appeal.

Banewell, x Kal., Sept., &c.

932. Bishop Ralph, protector or judge of the privileges of the brethren of the order of the B. Mary, of Mount Carmel, living in England, together with the archbishop of Canterbury, and the bishop of London, to the abbot of St. Augustine, Bristol, in the diocese of Worcester.

We commit to you our offices in causes and matters of the said order.

Banewell, ii Kal., Sept., A.D. 1335.

933. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

It has been intimated to us on the behalf of Sir Walter de London, canon of Sarum, that, although he, by virtue of a certain provision made to him by Pope Benedict xii., had obtained the deanery of Wells, vacant by the consecration of Richard, bishop of Durham, the last dean, and had possessed the said deanery for no short time, and it was publicly appealed to the apostolic see on the behalf of the said Walter, he fearing grave prejudice, that no one should attempt anything to the prejudice of him or his deanery, nevertheless, Master Roger de Mortuo Mari, the archdeacon, Thomas de Ratford, the chancellor, Richard de Thisteldene, the treasurer of Wells, Adam Murymouth, Lawrence de la Barre, Sir Michael de Eston, Walter de Hulle, Robert de Baldoke, Thomas de Haselschawe, Sir Richard de Rodeneye, and Sir Hamelin de Godeleye, canons of the said church, forming the chapter, pretending the said deanery is vacant by the death or Master Wibert de Lutelton, have decreed to proceed to the election of a future dean, impugning the right of the said Sir Walter. Wherefore we command you that you inhibit the said Master Roger and the others that they do not attempt prejudice pending the matter of appeal. Also cite the said Master Roger and others to appear before us or our commissary in the church of the Blessed Mary of Aldermarie church, London, on the second judicial day after the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist.

Exeter, ii Kal., Sept., A.D. 1335.

934. Radulphus, &c., dilecto filio Johanni Worm de Glaston' Fol. 129. nostre diocesis salutem, &c. Tue deuocionis attendentes affectum te ad vitam heremiticam quam ex proposito laudabili eligendam duxisti, promissione a te nobis facta fideliter de obseruanda perpetua castitate juxta canonicas sanctiones, quatenus in nobis est, admittimus per presentes.

In quorum testimonium has literas patentes sigillo nostro tibi fieri fecimus communitas.

Datum apud Iatton, viij. Kal., Septembris, anno, &c.

935. Bishop Ralph to the official of the deanery of Wells, the deanery being vacant.

A certain prebend in our church of Wells, commonly called

second Combe, was lately vacant by the death of Master John de Everdon, canon of Wells, which vacancy was publicly made known on the 24th day of July last. And although Pope John xxij. wishing to show special grace to Sir Matthew de Valencenis, Master Thomas de Aungeruill, Benedict Boni, of Florence, Thomas de Cruce, William de Neuport, Thomas de Honsyngore, William de Colby, Master John de Ildeslegh, and Master Philip de Daventre, conferred a canonry of our church of Wells on each of them separately at divers times. Nevertheless the same Matthew (and the others) have not accepted the said prebend.

We command you that you solemnly cite the said Matthew (and others) to appear in the chapel of the Blessed Mary near the cloister of our cathedral of Wells on Saturday next after the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary next to show their right to the said prebend.

Banewell, vi Kal., Sept., A.D., &c.

936. Bishop Ralph to William de Bathonia, perpetual vicar in the church of Wells.

Whereas from a time whereof memory is not to the contrary the bishop of Bath and Wells who for the time shall be, could place two vicars of the same church in his services and retain them at the pleasure of his will, and they can take the fruits, rents and issues of their vicarages with that entireness with which they took them as though they personally resided in the said church, the daily distributions and anniversaries of the deceased alone excepted.

We appoint you the said William one of the two vicars and place you in our services.

Banewell, vi Kal., Sept., A.D., 1335.

937. Bishop Ralph to John, archbishop of Canterbury.

We received the letters of your reverend fatherhood the 23rd day of August last, containing the tenour of certain divers apostolic letters directed to you and your suffragans on the occasion of the general passage to the Holy Land.

Which letters of yours begin thus. Johannes permissione

diuina Cantuar' archiepiscopus, tocius Anglie primas, venerabili fratro nostro domino Dei gratia Bathon' et Wellensi episcopo, &c. Et sic definiunt. Presentibus venerabili et discreto viro Magistro Thoma de Astelee, ecclesie sancti Pauli London' Thesaurario et Magistris Johanne de Eccleshale Coventrensis et Lichfeldensis, Ricardo de Guynerton Exoniensis diocesis auctoritate apostolica notariis publicis testibus, &c.

Of the receipt of which letters we certify your fatherhood.

Iatton, vii Kal., Sept., A.D. 1335.

938. Appeal to the apostolic see on behalf of Walter de London, by his proctor in the matter of the deanery of Wells.

939. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as many times, that you cause 6*li.* 10*s.* to be levied from the goods of Andrew de Wells (as before), and have them at our Exchequer, at York, on the morrow of St. Michael.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 21 June, in the 9th year of our reign.

We do not return this writ because we received it on the same day as the writ following.

940. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 130.

We command you, as many times, that you cause 4*li.* 10*s.* to be levied from the goods of Andrew de Welles, so that you have those monies at York, on the quindene of St. Michael.

Witness H. Le Scrop, at York, 20 July, in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. We have not executed this, because we received another writ of *supersedeas* until the quindene of St. Michael.

941. xvi Kal., Sept., A.D. 1335.

The lord at Banewell, dispensed by the apostolic authority, with John de Potenhulle "de presbitero genito et soluta," that notwithstanding the defect, he can be promoted to all orders and hold an ecclesiastical benefice.

942. Commission by Bishop Ralph for the abbot and convent

of Muchelney to provide John de Curkada, a poor priest of the diocese of Exeter, with an ecclesiastical benefice, in the common form.

Banewelle, xij Kal., Sept., A.D. 1335.

Fol. 131. 943. Bishop Ralph to all, &c.

Whereas we, lately exercising our visitation, caused the prior and convent of Golclyve, diocese of Landaff, to exhibit their title, whereby they pretend to hold the churches of Wollavyngton, Puryton, and Stanweye before our commissaries. Because they found that they were the just possessors of the said churches, we confirm the discharge of our commissaries.

Banewelle, 26 Sept., A.D. 1335.

Present. Sir John de Luffenham, rector of Tykencote, diocese of Lincoln, and Nicholas de la Rode, of the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield.

I, William de Ludeford, clerk of the diocese of Bath and Wells, public notary, was present.

944. 28 Sept., A.D. above, in the chamber of the bishop of Bath and Wells, at Iatton.

Thomas de Whittokesmede and James Husee, bailed John de Pikesle, rector of Merkesbury, diocese of Bath and Wells, for keeping the said father indemnified against the King and others by reason of a certain writ of Matilda, who was the wife of John de Bello Campo.

Present. Masters John de Milton and Thomas de Aissch, rectors of Schepton Belli Campi and Cherleton Makerel, and William de Camel, public notary, W. de Ludef[ord].

945. Although we, Ralph, &c., the priory of Bryutone lately vacant by the death of the prior, exercised jurisdiction in the parish church of Bannewelle, appropriated to the prior and convent of Bryuton, nevertheless it was not our intention to acquire anew anything of jurisdiction in the church.

Iatton, 28 Sept., A.D. 1335.

946. On the penultimate day of Sept., A.D. above, at Banewell, within the court of the bishop of Bath, Sir Robert, rector of

Axebrugge, confessed that he is bound to Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells, in six marks.

Present. Master John de Milton and John de Wiuelester.

947. 11 Oct., A.D. 1335, at Banewelle. Licence for Thomas Dunbredan, rector of Comptonepancefot, priest, to stay in the service of the abbess of Wiltone for a year.

948. We, I. de Carleton, official of the bishop of Bath and Wells, condemn you Richard de Rodenye in ten marks, to be paid to Master John de Middelton, rector of Schepton Belli Campi, on the feasts of St. Martin and the Purification next to come.

Banewelle, 16 Oct., A.D. 1335.

Present. Walter Mounsserel, esquire, and William de Camel, notary.

949. We, I de Carleton, official of the bishop of Bath and Wells, condemn you Richard de Lovenye, priest, in ten marks to be paid to Master Stephen Trippe on the feasts on All Saints and the Purification.

Banewell, 17 Oct., A.D. 1335.

Present. Sir Richard de Rodenye, and William, rector of Estkoker.

W. de Ludef[ord], registrar.

950. xvi. Kal., Nov., A.D. 1335, at Banewelle, the bishop of Bath and Wells, some documents which Sir Richard de Lovenye, of Odecomb, diocese of Bath and Wells, and Richard de Rodenye, of Netelyngton, diocese of Sarum, intended to use in the matter of an exchange between the said Richard, and Richard being exhibited before him, approved the resignations, and instituted Sir Richard de Rodenye to the church of Odecomb, to which he was presented by the prior and convent of Montacute, and instituted Sir Richard de Louenye to the church of Netelyngton to which he was presented by the abbot and convent of Glastonbury. Fol. 132.

951. vij Kal., Oct., at Banewell.

The rector of Dounezate had licence *standi in scola* until the feast of the Translation of St. Thomas next. So that he be in his church for a fortnight in Lent.

952. iij Kal., Nov., at Banewell.

Sir Hugh Saunsauer, rector of Spertegraue, had licence to stay in the service of the lord Richard Lovel, till the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula.

953. ii Nones, Nov., at Banewell. Sir John Caam, rector of Craucombe, had licence to let his church to farm until the feast of St. Michael so that he may study in the university of Oxford.

954. ii Nones, Nov. Walter de la More was admitted to the parish church of Kylve at the presentation of the minister and fellows (sodales) of the chantry of Kylve.

955. Adam Murimouth and Gilbert de Bruera, canons of Wells, executors together with Sir John de Euerdon, now deceased, in the matter of a provision by Pope Benedict xii., for William Donsterre a poor clerk, to Bishop Ralph.

We have assigned the fifth judicial day after the feast of St. Nicholas in the church of St. Paul, London, to proceed in the matter. Of which we warn your fatherhood that you may appear before us.

London, xvij Kal., Dec., A.D. 1335.

956. iij Non., Dec., A.D. above, at Woky.

Licence for Master William de Barton, rector of Kelveston, to celebrate divine services within his mansion of Barton, to last for two years.

957. The official of the jurisdiction of the deanery of Wells, the deanery being vacant, to Bishop Ralph.

I lately received your mandate containing the tenour within written.

Ralph, &c., to the official of the jurisdiction of the deanery of Wells.

Whereas, by men assembling at markets or fairs from divers parts, contentions very often arise and homicides happen from

time to time, it is forbidden that negociations be made in churches or their cemeteries. We command you that you publicly and solemnly forbid anyone to hold markets, &c., in our cathedral church of St. Mary, [*sic*] of Wells, and St. Cuthbert, of Wells, or their cemeteries under pain of greater excommunication.

You shall certify us what you do in the premises together with the names of those you find guilty.

Banewelle, Kal., Nov., A.D. 1335.

I have fully executed your command to forbid. I cannot certify you of the names of the guilty at present.

Wells, iij Non., Dec., A.D. above.

958. Non., Dec., at Wells. Licence for the rector of Nony to study at Oxford till the feast of St. Michael.

959. xix Kal., Jan., at Combe. The lord admitted Sir John de Cotes, priest, to the church of Hywisch Chaumflour, at the presentation of Nicholas Le Walisch.

960. xviij Kal., Jan., at Welyngtone. The lord [admitted] John Lynez, priest, to the church of Holeford, at the presentation of the prior and monks of Stokecurci.

961. A.D. 1335, 15 Sept., John Meysy, rector of Norton near Tanton, in the parish church of Welyngton, before Master John de Carleton. official of the bishop of Bath and Wells, confessed that he is bound to Robert de Middelton in 40*li.*, to be paid within four years. Fol. 133.

Present. John de Middelton and John de Sutton.

962. Bishop Ralph, collector of the sexennial tenth as a subsidy for the passage to the Holy Land, to the prior of Bath.

We commit to you our offices to collect the said tenth.

Welyngton, xix Kal., Jan., A.D. 1335[–6], and the 7th of our consecration.

963. xiij Kal., Jan., Masters William de Litelton, rector of

Ofcolme, diocese of Exeter, and William de Ludeford, proctor of Sir Richard de Carleton, precentor of the church of Wells, before the bishop of Bath and Wells, in the manor of Wyucles-combe effected the within written resignation.

I, William de Lutelton, rector of Ufcolm, diocese of Exeter, resign my said church by reason of an exchange with Sir Richard de Carleton, precentor of Wells, for his precentory.

I, William de Ludeford, clerk, proctor of Sir Richard de Carleton, precentor of Wells, resign the said precentory. Which resignations so being made, the bishop conferred the said precentory, with the church of Pulton annexed to the same, on the said William de Lutelton. Afterwards the bishop by authority of a commission of the bishop of Exeter admitted the said Sir Richard, subdeacon, to the church of Ufcolm.

Present. Masters John de Middelton, rector of Schepon Beauchamp, and William Camel, notary.

964. ij Kal., Jan., the bishop, at Wyvelescombe, admitted Sir Adam de Rustington, rector of Loxton, diocese of Bath and Wells, to the church of Tykencoute, diocese of Lincoln, by authority of a commission of the bishop of Lincoln, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Osolueston, by reason of exchange with Sir Richard Toky, of Luffenham, rector of Tykencote. Afterwards he admitted the said Sir Richard to the church of Loxton, at the presentation of the lady Alina Burnel.

965. Bishop Ralph to Sir Richard Toky, of Northluffenham, priest.

We institute you to the church of Loxton, in our diocese.

Wyvelescomb, ij Kal., Jan., A.D. 1335[-6].

966. John de Middeton, rector of Schepton Beauchamp, general commissary of Bishop Ralph, with special power to correct excesses, &c., of his subjects, to Sirs Robert, vicar of Ceddre, and Robert Axebury, vicar in the church of Wells.

We commit to you our offices to absolve Sir Adam de Rustyngton, late rector of Loxton, and Cecilia de Bercle, otherwise called de Frome, from the sentences of suspension

and excommunication passed on them by the said father or his official.

Dated, &c.

967. Nicholas de Bromlegh, rector of Greyngton, subdeacon, Fol. 134 appearing personally before us Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, supplicated that on the x Kal., Jan., A.D. 1335, we would deign to promote him to the order of deacon. And, as for certain causes we cannot be free to celebrate holy orders, in order that he may not succumb to the darts of calumniators hereafter concerning the premises, we have caused these our letters patent to be made.

Wyvelescomb, on the day, &c., abovesaid, in the 7th year of our consecration.

968. xi Kal., Jan., A.D. above, at Wyvelescomb. The lord dispensed with the aforesaid Master Nicholas de Bromlegh, rector of Greyngton, subdeacon, according to the form of the constitution "Cum ex eo," for a year.

969. Same day and place Master Nicholas de Bromlegh, rector of Greynton, renounced all actions and prosecutions against W. de Ludeford, Nicholas de la Rode, William Soty, and John Borbrigge, and the same Nicholas kissed them and each of them as a sign of peace.

Present. Masters John de Middelton and William Cammel.

970. x Kal., Jan. Licence for Sir Geoffrey de Nettelton, priest, and William de Arches [to let] a moiety of Wollavyngton, Pirryton, and Stanweye to farm from the feast of St. Michael next for two years. And the said William shall pay at the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula 40*s*. as alms of the bishop.

971. 20 Dec., A.D. 1335, in the hall of the manor of Wyvelescomb, Master John de Carleton, official of the bishop of Bath and Wells, sitting as a tribunal, William de Arches appeared personally before him and confessed that he had violated the sequestration put on the fruits of the church of Wollavyngton, upon which violation he submitted himself to the grace of the

bishop. And it being further alleged against him that he took the churches of Wollavyngton, Stoweye, and Puryton to farm for 20 years, the same William denied this. Punishment for the violence reserved to the bishop.

Present. Masters J. de Middelton, Stephen Tripp. Nicholas de la Rode.

972. viij Id., A.D. above, at Wyvelescomb. The lord arranged the matter of exchange between Masters William de Bratton, rector of Thornefagon, and Thomas de Hornesbogh, rector of Wotton, churches of his diocese. Master William presented by the prior and monks of Stokekurcy to the church of Wotton and Master Thomas presented to Thornefagon by Richard de Acton.

973. Bishop Ralph to Henry, bishop of Lincoln.

We have received your letters dated at York ix Kal., Dec., A.D. 1335, and we have admitted Sir Adam de Rustyngton to the church of Tykencote and instituted him as rector in the same.

974. To all the sons of the holy mother church to whose notice this writing shall come, Nicholas, abbot of Keynesham, and the convent of the same place, greeting in the Lord everlasting. The reverend father Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, turning the eyes of favour to us, and especially in obtaining the church of Heighelutleton appropriated to us, by the tenour of these presents we bind ourselves forever to say one collect with convenient prayers every day in the mass of the Blessed Mary for the healthful state of the same bishop whilst he shall live, and for his soul when he shall be taken away from this light.

Keynesham, in our chapter, 1 Jan., A.D. 1335.

975. iij Id., Jan., at Wyvelescomb. Sir Alexander de Eggeworthy, chaplain, was admitted to the parish church of Brysch-ford, at the presentation of Britall Ieweys.

Fol. 135. 976. Bishop Ralph to Master Walter de Hulle, subdean of Wells.

Although the chancellors of our church of Wells, who for the time were, by a laudable custom of the said church for a long time used, were effectually bound and constrained to read in the schools of the said church within the city, by themselves or others, in the holy Bible, in the name of the canonical law, and by pretext of their dignity aforesaid. Nevertheless Master Thomas de Retford, now chancellor there has not taken care to read as he is bound, as we find in our visitation, We commit our offices to you to proceed in the said matter of withdrawing the reading and also to compel Master Thomas to undergo the charge of the said reading.

Dated, &c., in the year, &c.

977. Bishop Ralph to Master Walter de Hulle, subdean of Wells.

We commit our offices to you to confer certain benefices now vacant or hereafter to be vacant in our diocese, also in our cathedral church of Wells, and to induct those on whom you shall think fit to confer such benefices, to last until the feast of Pentecost next.

Dated, &c.

978. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as heretofore, that you cause Robert de Helpeston, your clerk, to come before our justices at York, on the quindene of St. Hilary, to answer to Margaret who was the wife of Edmund, earl of Kent, of a plea that he render to her his reasonable account for the time he was her bailiff in Lyston and Chetescomb.

Witness I. de Stonore, at York, 26 Oct., in the 9th year of our reign.

979. vij Id., Feb., at Wyvelescomb. John de Middelneye, acolyte, was admitted to the parish church of Coryryuel at the presentation of the Lady Sybil de Mohon, lady of Coryryuel.

Same day and place.

Licence for the same John to study for a year.

980. Same day and place.

Richard de la Hehg̃, priest, admitted to the church of Henton St. George by reason of exchange for the chapel of Cornemouth, diocese of Sarum.

981. Id., March. Master John de Middelton, rector of Schepton Beauchamp, commissary of the bishop, sitting in the parish church of Claverton as a tribunal, recited certain acts in a cause of matrimony between Matilda de Kymyngton, plaintiff, of the one part, and Thomas de Actton, respondent, of the other part. Which acts being recited, he adjudged the aforesaid Thomas as the husband of Matilda, and the said Matilda as the wife of the aforesaid Thomas.

982. Robert, prior of Bath, and the convent of the same place to all the sons of the holy mother church, &c. Know ye that we have inspected the letter of Sir John de Godeley, dean of Wells, and the chapter of the same place under the tenour which follows.

To all the sons of the holy mother church, &c. John de Godeleye, dean of Wells, and the chapter of the same place. greeting in the Lord everlasting.

Attendentes beneficia magna que bone memorie dominus Robertus Burnel dudum Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus et venerabilis pater dominus Walterus de Haselch[agh] nunc ipsius ecclesie episcopus nobis et ecclesie beati Andree Wellensis fecerunt et fiere procurarunt, videlicet, ex eo quod dictus dominus Robertus preter cetera beneficia que nobis fecit tam in vita quam in morte ipsius ecclesias de Iuelton et de Burnham de Staunton Dru et de Chelleworth dicte diocesis suo tempore ecclesie beati Andree adquisiuit habens in proposito appropriandi prefatam ecclesiam de Burnham decano et capitulo Wellensi pro obitu suo faciendo et ad fabricam ipsius ecclesie sustentandam. quodque prefatus dominus Walterus dicti patris propositum tam salubre cupiens adimplere. duas acras terre cum jure patronatus dicte ecclesie de Burnham de consensu domini nostri domini Edwardi Dei gratia regis Anglie illustris liberaliter nobis donavit cum omnibus pertinentibus ad eandem. Nos volentes huiusmodi beneficia quantum possumus compensare concedimus per presentes unanimi et spontanea voluntate, habito prius super hoc

diligenti et solempni tractatu cum fratribus nostris et Capitulo Bathon', quod de bonis nostris communibus assignentur juxta ordinacionem dicti domini Walteri episcopi nostri decem libre sterlingorum singulis annis inperpetuum solvende in ecclesia cathedrali Wellen' per manus Communarii nostri qui pro tempore fuerit ad faciendum servicium pro salubri statu domini Edwardi regis Anglie qui gratiam hujusmodi nobis concessit et domine Margarete regine Anglie nunc consortis sue, necnon domine Alianore quondam regine Anglie consortis sue, liberorum suorum et pro animabus ipsorum cum ab hac vita subtracti fuerint, ac pro animabus dominorum Roberti et Walteri episcoporum predecessorum et successorum suorum, decanorum et canonicorum ecclesie Wellen' et omnium fidelium defunctorum per duos capellanos in forma conscripta inferius, &c. Qui quidem capellani duas missas celebrant cotidie et plenum servicium dicent pro defunctis et specialiter pro animabus dictorum domini regis, &c., ac beneficiorum suorum ad altaria juxta ingressum chori in honore beatissime Virginis Marie et beati Andree apostol(orum).

Also as follows :—

4*s.* to the sustentation of the light, ornaments, bread and wine at the second altar.

20*s.* to the anniversary of the said lord Robert on the day of SS. Crispin and Crispinia which is the day of his obit.

10*s.* for bread for the poor.

20*s.* on the morrow of the Purification to the canons and vicars in the church of Wells, who shall cause one mass with the office "Salus populi," to be celebrated for the healthful state of Walter de Haselch[agh] our now bishop.

10*s.* in buying bread for the poor, for the said bishop, and when he shall die, they shall be assigned for celebrating on the day of his obit and on his anniversary in the church of Wells.

10*s.* likewise in bread for the poor on the same days.

2*s.* to the commoner for his labour.

8*d.* to the sacristan of the church of Wells for ringing the peal of bells (classicus). Our said Bishop Walter chose Sirs Robert de Derby and Richard de Marchumleye, chaplains, to do these things.

Datum et actum in capitulo nostro Wellensi quinto kalend.,

Januarii anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo sexto et anno regni regis Edwardi tricesimo quinto.

We therefore, the prior and chapter of Bath confirm the said gift.

Dated, vi. Kal., Feb., A.D. abovenamed.

983. To all, &c. Robert, prior of Bath and the chapter of the same place, greeting in the Saviour of all. We have inspected the letters of Walter de Haselch[agh], bishop of Bath and Wells, in the form underwritten. Know ye that we, &c., have given, granted, and by these presents confirmed to our very beloved in Christ, John, dean of the church of St. Andrew, of Wells, and to the chapter of the same place two acres of land in Burnham, with the advowson of the church of St. Andrew, of the same vill. To have and to hold, &c., in free, pure, and perpetual alms, &c.

Dated at Cherde, xij Kal., April, A.D. 1305.

Witnesses. Sirs Gilbert de Cnouyle, Nicholas de Langelond Thomas de Welleslegh, knights, John de Hampton, Philip Le Yrais, John de Marisco, Thomas de Burghs.

And we, the said prior and chapter of Bath give our assent.

Dated in our chapter.

Plus non scribitur de hoc scripto.

984. To all, &c. Robert, prior of Bath, and the chapter of the same place, greeting, &c. Know ye that we have inspected the letters of Walter de Haselch[agh], bishop of Bath and Wells, in the form underwritten.

Whereas our very dear sons, Sir John de Godeleye, dean of Wells, and the chapter of the said church submitted themselves and their church of Burnham, the advowson of which with two acres of land we formerly conferred on them, to hold firm whatsoever we shall ordain touching the said church and all things which belong to it. We, considering that the common goods of the said dean and chapter do not suffice for holding fitting hospitality, and especially because their manors of Northcory and Wynescomb are charged with debts, grant and give the said church of Burnham and a pension of 10*li.*, which they were wont to take every year from the rector of the said church, to the said dean and chapter, viz.—that the said dean and chapter

shall pay from the said pension of 10*li.*, which we will that they take from now from Sir Henry de Corthoũ now holding the said church, in the church of St. Andrew, of Wells, by the hands of their commoner, ten marks to sustain two chaplains who shall celebrate two masses every day in the church of Wells for the healthful estate of King Edward, and the Lady Margaret, now his consort, &c. (as on p. 257). And of the fruits and obventions of the church of Burnham we appoint in this manner, viz. they shall levy 20*li.* of silver to discharge themselves and their manor of Northcory from 10*li.* of silver, for which the said manor is bound for the soul of Sir William de Welyngton, formerly canon of Wells; and other 10*li.* to discharge themselves and their manor of Wynescomb from 10*li.* for which they are bound to the executors of Henry Huse, formerly dean of Wells.

Dated at Chyu, xij Kal., Feb., A.D. 1306.

And we, the prior and chapter of Bath give our assent.

Dated the day before the Ides of Feb. in the year above.

985. The official of the archdeacon of Dorset, to Robert, bishop of Sarum.

I have received your letters in these words. The abbot and convent of Forde have presented Reyner de Cotoun, rector of Henton St. George, diocese of Bath and Wells, to the chapel of Cernemouth, of our diocese, by reason of exchange of his said church for the chapel aforesaid pertaining to their presentation. We command you that you make inquisition according to the due articles and what you find thereby you shall intimate to us.

Poterne, viij Kal. Feb., A.D. 1335, and the 6th of our consecration.

Diligently enquiring by the tenour of which letters, I find that the said Reyner is of lawful age, of good life, &c. The said chapel is a pensionary to the vicar of Wytchurche in *2s.* annually. It is not taxed, on account of its smallness. The chapter do not know the causes of the exchange.

Maydene Nyweton, iij Kal., Feb., A.D. above.

986. Bernard Sistre, canon of the church of St. Hilary, of Poitou, Nuncio of the Pope in the parts of England. We warn

you that you satisfy us at Mid Lent for the pence of the Blessed Peter due by you to the Roman church.

Fol. 138. 987. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

The petition of Cecilia, called de Pountfreyt, a woman, exhibited to us contains that the party of the said Cecilia (on whose behalf it was appealed to the apostolic see) appearing before Master John de Middelton, pretending that he was your commissary, the said John fulminated the sentence of greater excommunication on the said Cecilia. We inhibit you from attempting anything to the prejudice of the said appellant pending appeal in the court of Canterbury. We cite you to appear before us.

London, v Id., Feb., A.D. 1335.

988. Bishop Ralph to the president of the church of Wells and the chapter.

A suitable portion has not hitherto be assigned to the vicar of of Burnham. We warn you that on this side the feast of St. Valentine, you study to assign a sufficient portion to the vicar of the said church.

Dated, &c.

989. Correctiones facte in archidiaconatu Wellensi.

Walterus de Chilterne coram nobis I. de Middelton commissario domini Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi apud Sutton Mountagu in cimitterio ecclesie parochialis ejusdem loci comparens, et cum sibi fuisset objectum quod impedivit dominum episcopum in officio crismandi pueros. Qui premissa sibi objecta expresse fatebatur. Cui injunctum extitit quod stet juxta fontes die dominica proximo sequente more penitentiali superpellicio indutus, et quod dicat (p)salterium dum magna missa celebratur, et quod exponatur causa per capellanum parochie coram parochianis cum punitie predicta.

Acta loco quo supra ultimo die mensis Februarii.

990. Same day and place.

Alice Gardiner, of Modeford, confessed the crime of incontinency with Sir John Gardiner, priest.

She shall give *6d.* to the light of the B. Mary in the church of Modeford.

John Pencrich, rector of Weston, confessed the crime of incontinency with Alice Kynges.

He shall feed one poor person every Friday till Easter next. The next day the said Alice appeared and confessed the same.

She shall go with bare feet every Friday till Easter to church and hear a mass.

991. Bishop Ralph to Walter Le Hulle, subdean of Wells.

Heretofore we ordered the president and chapter of Wells to assign a sufficient portion to the vicar of the church Burnham, appropriated to the dean and chapter of our said church.

Cite the said dean and chapter to appear before us or our commissary on the 6th judicial day after the feast of St. Ambrose the bishop, in the church of Burnham to see the inquisition, and further to proceed to do what the nature of the matter requires.

Evercrich, 3 March, A.D. 1335[-6].

By authority of which I have cited the chapter.

Wells, Id., April, A.D., above.

992. De potestate domini Bernardi Sistre Nuncii Pape. Fol. 139

Benedict, the bishop, servant of the servants of God, to Master Bernard Sistre, canon of St. Hilary, of Poitou, Nuncio in the parts of England, &c. We appoint you to collect the tax called the money of the B. Peter in the same parts.

Id., Sept., in the first year of our pontificate.

993. Pope Benedict to the same.

Whereas some archbishop, bishops, abbots, priors, chapters, convents, and other ecclesiastical persons, exempt and non-exempt, of the parts of England, &c., are bound to pay a certain annual tax to the Roman church. We grant to your discretion full faculty to compel gainsayers and rebels by ecclesiastical censure without appeal.

Id., Sept., in the first year of our pontificate.

994. Pope Benedict to the same.

Formerly, Pope John xxii thought fit to appoint first, Hugh de Engolisma, bishop of Carpentras, and subsequently Icherius de Concoreto, canon of Salisbury, to the parts of England.

Scotland, Wales, and Ireland upon matters touching the church of Rome, by his letters. Some of the said matters remain to be fulfilled. We grant to your discretion full faculty to execute the said matters.

Id., Sept., in the first year of our pontificate.

995. Same to the same.

If Hugh, bishop of Carpentras, and Icherius de Concoreto, or the subcollectors unduly harmed any concerning the collecting of divers issues belonging to the apostolic chamber, or if they defrauded it, you shall inform yourself and what you find concerning these things shall be set down in writing.

vi Kal., Oct., in the first year of our pontificate.

996. Pope Benedict to the archbishops, &c., throughout the parts of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

We have thought fit to appoint a Nuncio to the said parts. We exhort all of you that you, receiving him kindly and treating him honestly, will provide him with *7s.* every day while he shall be in those parts.

Id., Sept., in the first year of our pontificate.

997. Which said letters we (the official of the court of Canterbury), have caused to be published.

3 Feb., A.D. 1335.

Present. Sirs John Joce, canon of Bridinton, Exeter, Duranto Katherini, rector of St. Saviour de Montiliis, Magalonia, and Thomas de Bowyke, rector of Chelyndon, diocese of Canterbury, witnesses.

Fol. 140. 998. And I, Moreti, clerk (clericus) of Angoulesme, public notary, have subscribed my name to the presentation, publication, &c., of the said letters.

999. Bernard Sistre to the Bishop.

We require you that you satisfy us at Mid Lent for the pence of the B. Peter due for terms of the 34th and 35th year. Warn the dean of Wells that he satisfy 100*li.*, and the archdeacon of Bath 15*li.* for the fruits of their benefices.

Warn the abbot of Glaston' and the prior of Taunton, sub-collectors of the quadriennial tenth that they pay the money due.
London, 3 Feb., A.D. 1335.

1000. Bishop Ralph to the deans, archdeacons, and their officials, also to the rectors, vicars, and parish chaplains throughout his diocese.

Cum procuratores seu veri nuncii novi operis fabrice ecclesie conventualis Apostolorum Petrie et Pauli Tanton' ad vos accesserint in Christi nomine fidelium elemosinas petituri, ipsos diebus dominicis et festivis benignius admittentes illorum negocia christiano populo tunc presenti diligencius exponatis.
Dated, &c.

1001. Bishop Ralph to Walter de Hulle, subdean of Wells.
We have received apostolic letters to collect the subsidy for the passage to the Holy Land, which commence, John, the bishop, servant of the servants of God, &c.
Dated vii Kal,, Aug., in the 17th year of our pontificate.
And because we are hindered by various matters of ours and of our church, we order you that you study to execute the said letters.
Dated, &c.

1002. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Wells.
We have received the apostolic letters containing that, whereas the Pope had published a general passage in relief of of the Holy Land, and willed, amongst other things, that money-boxes (truncé) with three keys be put in all parish churches in which the faithful of Christ may put their money. The first key to be kept by us, the second by the rector, vicar or priest, and the third by some layman of proved life. We commit to you the execution of this matter.
Dated, &c.

1003. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Merston.
Warn T. and G., rectors of B. and C. that they make corporal residence in their benefices within a month.
Dated, &c.

1004. Bishop Ralph to Master William de Kynardeseye, official of the jurisdiction of Wyvelescomb.

We commit our offices to you to hold chapters in the parish churches of Cerde and Welyngton, to punish and correct crimes and offences of the parishioners of the same churches and of other delinquents in the same parishes, to admit proofs of testaments and to do all other things which follow spiritual jurisdiction.

Dated, &c.

Fol 141. 1005. Bishop Ralph to Master William de Kynardeseye.

We commit our offices to you to punish and correct crimes and offences in whatsoever causes and matters belonging to an ecclesiastical court and to our cognisance.

Dated, &c.

1006. Bishop Ralph to the prior of Bath, the dean of Bath, and the rector of Nywetoneseyntlou.

Whereas our commissary enjoined on Walter Le Smyth, of Nywetonseyntlou, for violent laying of hands on Thomas Cotel, clerk, that he shall stand every Friday for seven years then next following in the parish church of Nywetonseyntlou whilst the divine office is being celebrated. "Camisiis femoralibus dumtaxat indutus more penitentiali nudus pedes et capud."

Holding a taper or candle of the value of ½*d.* at least, which when the office is ended he shall offer in the said church. He shall also stand every feast of the Annunciation during the said seven years in the cathedral church of Bath and shall hold a taper or candle in his hands and offer as aforesaid. On which days the cause of the punishment shall be explained by him celebrating the divine services.

We order you that you compel the said Walter to perform the said punishment every year during the seven years aforesaid.

Clauerton, v Kal., Ap., A.D. 1336.

1007. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Peter Sevenhoke, vicar of Stoket, to come before our justices, at York, to answer to John de Bello Campo, the elder, of a plea that he render to him *20li.*

Witness J. de Stonore, 6 Feb., in the 10th year of our reign.

Return. Petrum Sevenhoke clericum infrascriptum moneri fecimus.

1008. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Robert de Helpeston, your clerk, to come before our justices on the quindene of Holy Trinity to answer to Margaret who was the wife of Edmund, earl of Kent, of a plea that he render to her his account.

Witness J. de Stonore, 6 Feb., in the 10th year of our reign.

1009. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 38*li.* 10*s.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of Philip de la Lee, parson of Bleodon, late parson of Forton, which he acknowledged that he owed to Master John Clarel, archdeacon of Stafford.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 12 May, in the 9th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused to the value of 4 marks to be sequestrated, which remain for lack of purchasers.

1010. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Distrain William le Stabler, vicar of Inglescombe, that he be before the barons of our Exchequer on the octaves of St. John the Baptist to answer to us and Andrew de Welles, John Deniel, and John Uppehulle, executors of the testament of Nicholas de Wedergraue.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 12 May, in the 10th year of our reign.

Return. We received this writ so late that we could not execute it.

On the octave of Holy Trinity last because your writ was delivered so late we could not execute it.

1011. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Know that in our court before our justices, at York, we recovered our presentation to the wardenship of the church of St. Andrew, of Wells, which belongs to our gift by reason of the bishopric of Bath and Wells being in the hand of King Edward our grandfather. We command you to admit a fit parson. Fol. 142.

Witness. J. de Stonore, at York, 10 May, in the 10th year of our reign.

Roll Mich. 8. ccclxxviij.

1012. The King to the archbishops, bishops, &c.

Whereas we lately recovered our collation to the wardenship of the church of St. Andrew, of Wells, and conferred that wardenship on Peter de Bergkele, and now certain people impugn our rights and those of our crown, and also the judgment rendered in our court with all their strength. We forbid you and each of you that you presume to attempt anything in derogation of our right and crown.

Witness ourself at Berwick-on-Tweed, 26 June, in the 10th year of our reign.

Fol. 142b. 1013. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Nicholas de Wedergraeve is quit of 88*li.* 2*s.* 1½*d.* which he owed us of the issues of the temporalities of the abbey of Glaston.

Do not distrain the executor of the said Nicholas or the tenants of his lands.

Witness H. Le Scrop, 18 Nov., in the 9th year of our reign.

1014. xvij Kal., Sept., A.D. 1336, at Banewell. The lord [instituted] John Prince, priest, to the vicarage of Kyustoke, at the presentation of the prior and canons of Worspring, the other benefices which he held being first resigned.

Same day and place.

The lord admitted William de Southam, priest, to the church of Sweyneswyke, at the presentation of Edmund Husee.

1015. Simon, bishop of Worcester to Bishop Ralph.

We have received your letter under this form. Whereas Sirs William de Bourn, rector of Oslewourth, of your diocese, and Robert de Ruwes, perpetual vicar of Stokgummer, of our diocese desire to exchange benefices. We commit our offices to you.

Dated at Banewell, vi Id., Aug., A.D. 1336.

We therefore have instituted the said William to the church of Stokgummer.

Hertlebury, xviij Kal., Sept., A.D. 1336.

1016. Bishop Ralph to Bernard Sistre, the Papal Nuncio. Fol. 143.

We have received your letters under the tenour which follows.

If Hugh de Ingalisma, now bishop of Carpentras, and Icherius de Concoreto or their subcollectors have harmed anyone, received rewards, or defrauded the apostolic chamber, do you inform yourself through the archdeacon and deans, and what you shall find transmit to us in writing.

London, 20 Ap., A.D. 1336.

By authority of which letters I have caused enquiry to be made concerning all things contained in the said letters. We are informed that one William Skynard, dean of St. Carentok and John de Northon, rector of the church of la Witta, diocese of Exeter, and Robert Baac, clerk, of the same diocese, subcollectors, burdened many of our subjects and others, also they ordered executors of deceased people to be cited to exhibit testaments and inventories and dragged many of them to divers places until they made a fine with them. They received extortions and rewards, and often defamed the apostolic chamber. And so the clergy and people of our diocese do not care to give to the subsidy of the Holy Land.

But whether the commissioners, subcollectors or ministers satisfied the same or defrauded the chamber we have not up to this time been informed.

Banewell, A.D. 1336, 20 Aug.

Present, Master John de Middleton and Henry de Sudbury.

I, Stephen Trippe, clerk, public notary, have written these letters and set my seal.

1017. Bishop Ralph to Bernard Sistre, the Papal Nuncio.

We have received your letters in these words.

We have heard from the crusaders and ambassadors for the subsidy of the Holy Land in times gone by divers sums of money have been collected for which it has not been yet answered. We order you that you warn all collectors, &c., to pay the monies collected at the instant feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

London, 29 May, A.D. 1336.

I have caused to be enquired by trustworthy men. We are informed that Master Walter Brown, subdean of Wells, now

deceased, Sir Hugh de Engalisma, William Skynard, then dean of St. Karentok, John de Norton, rector of Lawitta, and Robert Baak, clerk, of the diocese of Exeter, now deceased as it is said, subcollectors, collected divers sums of money bequeathed to the subsidy of the Holy Land.

And that William de Marchia, formerly bishop of Bath and Wells, bequeathed 100 marks under this form.

"Item lego Johanni de Marchia fratri meo centum marcas ad eundum in terram sanctam personaliter pro me in primo generali passagio. Et si contingat illum antequam iter fecerit mori dicta pecunia liberetur Roberto Urry nepoti meo ad illud iter pro me faciendum. Et si contingat illum mori, &c., predicta pecunia alicui petenti et volenti ad idem faciendum juxta discretionem executorum meorum."

The executors deposited the 100 marks in the treasury of Wells, but whether the sums collected by the said Walter, William, John, and Robert are satisfied to the apostolic see, or whether the 100 marks are paid to any of the legatees we are not informed. We could not find Andrew de Woky, executor of Walter Broun, or any other heirs or executors of his, or the said William or John. Robert Baak, who died in the Roman court, left no executors in our diocese or any lands. We have warned generally all persons as well secular as religious, also chapters, colleges and convent according to the form of your letters.

Banewell, 13 Aug., A.D. above.

1018. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Wells or his official.

We propose to visit our diocese and to go down to the archdeaconry of Wells on Monday next after the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle next.

Banewelle, xij Kal., Sept., A.D. 1336.

1019. In Dei nomine amen. Ego Johannes de Clyvedone dominus de Clyvedon miles . . . condo testamentum meum in hunc modum die Veneris in vigilia sancti Laurencii Martiris, anno Domine Millesimo cccmo xxxvj . . . Corpus meum ad sepeliendum in capella beati Thome Martiris in ecclesia beati Andree de Clyvedon.

Item lego magno altari beati Andree unam capam de serico.

Item altari beati Thome predicte capelle unum par vestimentorum cum calice argenteo.

Item lego domino Thome perpetuo vicario de Clyvedon unum equum cum toto apparatu militari ad eundum ante corpus meum die sepulture mee vel xx marcas sterlingorum ad electionem dicti vicarii . . .

Item lego residuum vestimentorum meorum ecclesiasticorum prius non legatorum cum uno calice capelle beati Petri in manerio meo de Clyvedon.

Item lego in vigilia sepulture mee. xl. li. cere ad quatuor torticias faciendas qualibet continente. x. li. et quod quatuor pauperes sint ad idem deputati de nouo uestiti de russeto.

Item lego die sepulture mee. c. li. cere ad quinque cereos faciendos ad pronendum circa corpus meum . . . Pauperibus eodem die. xx. marcas . . .

Item lego Emeline uxori mee dimidiam partem vasis argentei et alteram partem dimidiam Edmundo filio meo. Ita quod predicta Emelina teneat dimidiam partam predictam quamdiu vixerit, et post decessum eius redeat predicto Edmundo filio meo . . .

Item ordino et constituo quod de toto residuo omnium bonorum meorum statuentur duo capellani ad celebrandum divina in capella beati Thome predicta pro anima mea, videlicet, dominus Johannes de Evesham et dominum Johannes de Uske . . . Ordino executores meos, videlicet Emelinam uxorem meam Edmundum de Clyvedon heredem meum, Rogerum Tertle, et Matheum filium meum.

Item ordino et constituo dominum Johannem de Pauyle militem quod sit supervisor.

Proved before John de Middeltone, rector of Schepton Beauchamp, commissary of the bishop of Bath and Wells, in the chamber of the manor of Sir Edmund de Clyvedon, iv Kal., Sept., A.D. within written.

Administration granted to the lady Emelina, the relict, and Sir Edmund and Matthew, sons of the deceased. Power reserved to Roger Tertle.

Present. Sir John de Uske and Robert Valde, clerk.

Fol. 145. 1020. Last day of Aug. John de Carleolo, chaplain, admitted to the church of Clafforde at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Keynesham.

1021. iv Non., Sept. John Aluard, priest, instituted to the vicarage of the prebendal church of Tymbrescombe, at the presentation of Master John de Carleton, prebendary of the said prebend.

1022. Item eodem die dominus ratificavit primam tonsuram Simonis Broke furtive receptam auctoritate diocesana et dispensavit cum eo auctoritate literarum domini Gaucelini episcopi Albanensis domini pape penitentiarii ad ulteriores ordines, et quod posset habere beneficium ecclesiasticum etiam si curam habeat animarum.

1023. Summons to attend the great council, at Nottingham, on Monday next after the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle next.

Teste at the vill of St. John, 24 Aug., 10 Edw. iii.

[Printed in "Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament" p. 187].

1024. The King to the sheriff of Somerset.

Place Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, under safe pledges that he be before us on the quindene of St. John the Baptist to show wherefore, whereas we conferred the wardenship of St. Andrew, of Wells, on Peter de Berkele the same bishop impugns our right.

Witness ourself, at York, 6 June, in the 9th year of our reign

1025. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Robert de Helpeston to come before our justices on the quindene of St. Michael to answer to Margaret who was the wife of Edmund, late earl of Kent.

Witness J. de Stonore, 18 June, in the 10th year of our reign.

1026. Bishop Ralph to John Mace, of Grendon, a poor clerk of the diocese of Lincoln.

By the apostolic authority we confer on you the vicarage of

Chilterne belonging to the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruyton, and institute you vicar in the same.
Dated, &c.

1027. Writ to Bishop Ralph.
Distrain William Le Stabler, vicar of Inglescombe, to answer to us and Andrew de Welles, John Danyel and John de Uppehulle, executors of the testament of Nicholas de Wedergraue.
Witness H. Le Scrop, 16 July, in the 10th year of our reign.
Return. We have caused William Le Stabler, whose benefice is so poor that it scarcely suffices for the sustentation of one priest, to be distrained to be before the barons of the Exchequer on the day noted in the writ.

1028. 12 Sept., A.D. 1336, Master Simon de Bristol, in the hall of the bishop, at Banewell, took an oath to preserve the bishop indemnified by reason of the execution and return of a royal writ against Philip de la Lee, rector of Bledon, obtained by John Clarel. Present, masters John de Clauerton and John de Middelton. Fol. 146.

1029. Venerabili in Christo patri domino Radulpho Dei gratia Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo ; Stephanus eiusdem permissione Londoniensis episcopus, salutem et sincere dilectionis continuum incrementum. Mandatum reverendi in Christo patris domine Johannis Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, tocius Anglie primatis, et apostolice sedis legati, nuper recepimus tenore continens infrascriptum.
Johannes, &c., [Mandate to summon the council at Nottingham on Monday next after the feast of St. Matthew the apostle and also to convoke the bishops and clergy of the diocese of Canterbury at Leicester on Monday next after the feast of St. Michael, to treat with David de Brus, &c. Dated at Northampton, vij Kal., Sept., A.D. 1336. Printed in "Wilkins' Concilia," p. 582.]
Vice igitur et auctoritate dicti patris, Vobis injungimus et mandamus, quatinus omnes Decanos et singula capitula ecclesiarum cathedralium, abbates, priores, archidiaconos et clerum vestre diocesis premuniatis, seu faciatis premuniendo citari

quod iidem Decanus, abbates, &c. compareant coram dicto patre ipsiusve Commissario in ecclesia conventuali beate Marie de Pratis Leicestrie die Lune proximo frost festum sancti Michaelis proximo futurum, facturi in omnibus quod mandatum exigit prelibatum.

Datum apud Claketon. ij$^{e}$. Nonarum Septembris anno Domini supradicto.

1030. Stephen, bishop of London, to Bishop Ralph.

We have received the mandate of John, archbishop of Canterbury, containing the tenour within written.

John, archbishop of Canterbury, &c., to S., bishop of London, greeting.

Our lord the King has supplicated us that, whereas he with his peers and people has directed his steps to the parts of the kingdom of Scotland, we will commend our said lord the King to the highest Lord of armies by whose rule princes are governed, and to the devout suffrages of all. We therefore command you that you enjoin all our brethren and suffragan co-bishops of Canterbury, that they warn their clerks and laymen that they do not omit to make the solemn and accustomed processions (processiones) and pour out humble prayers to the Highest for the healthful estate of the King, his peers and his other faithful men.

Dated at Kenylleworth, iv Id., Aug., A.D. 1336.

By authority of which we command you that you execute the said mandate.

Dated, &c.

[Printed in "Wilkins' Concilia" vol. ii, p. 582.]

Fol. 147. 1031. xvi Kal., Oct., at Banewell.

Letters dimissory for Robert de la More, of Pedewell, subdeacon, to the order of deacon.

A.D. above.

Same day, place, and year.

Letters dimissory for Robert atte Mere, de la See, subdeacon, to the order of deacon.

1032. Same place, xv Kal., Oct. Letters dimissory for John,

son of William Le Brewere, of Estcammel, deacon, to obtain the order of priest.

Same day, place, and year.

The lord granted to John Mace, of Grendon, vicar of Chylterne, the first tonsure, having letters dimissory to the order of acolyte.

Same day and year.

Letters dimissory for William de Northlegh, subdeacon, to the order of deacon.

Same day, place, and year. Letters dimissory for Sir John de Middelnegh, acolyte, rector of Coryryuel, to obtain the order of subdeacon.

Same day, place, and year.

Letters dimissory for brothers William de Wolmyngton and Walter de Monynton, monks of Glaston, deacons, to the order of priest.

Same day, place, and year.

Letters dimissory for Sirs John Pollard and William de Preston, deacons, to the order of priest. Thomas Avebury, John Pulle, Vincent Polham, acolytes, monks of Muchelnegh, to the order of subdeacon.

xvi Kal., Oct. [same] place and year.

Letters dimissory for Thomas atte More, of Bath, having the first tonsure, to the order of acolyte.

16 Sept., same place

Letters dimissory for Peter Le Wodeward, of Schapwyke, subdeacon, to the order of deacon, "ad titulum Willelmi Artour qui penes registrum nostrum remanet."

Same day. John Bourbach, deacon, to the order of priest.

1033. Bishop Ralph to the King.

Quia gravissima nostri corporis infirmitate detenti in tractatu die Lune proximo post festum sancti Matthei apostoli proximum futurum per vos apud Notyngham jam ordinato nostram exhibere non possumus presentiam, ad tractandum dictis die et loco vobiscum, et cum ceteris prelatis magnatibus et proceribus regni vestri super negociis vos et statum dicti regni vestri, ac aliarum terrarum vestrarum contingentibus, et ad consenciendum hiis que erunt ibidem salubriter ordinata. Ac etiam super infirmitate nostra si oporteat in animam nostram juranda, necnon omnia alia et singula faciendi et expe liendi que premissa

concernunt et concernere poterunt, dilectos nobis in Christo dominos Michaelem de Wath, Thomam de Evesham et Magistrum Robertum de Chiggewell et eorum quemlibet procuratores nostros constituimus per presentes. Hanc nostram absenciam excusatam habere dignetur vestra regia celsitudo quam ad tutum regimen regni vestri dirigat clemencia saluatoris.

Banewell, 15 Sept., A.D. 1336.

1034. Bishop Ralph to Henry, bishop of Lincoln.

Pater et domine reuerende, quia grauissima nostri corporis infirmitate detenti in tractatu die Lune proximo post festum sancti Matthei apostoli apud Notyngham faciendo nos nequimus presenciam facere personalem; vestram reverendam paternitatem attencius deprecamur, quatinus dicte infirmitati nostre fraterno compacientes affectu penes excellentissimum principem et dominum nostrum regem, nostram excusacionem taliter dignemini promouere, ut nostram absenciam habeat, vestro mediante presidio excusatam.

Bishop Ralph to John, archbishop of Canterbury, on the same subject.

[Bishop Ralph] to Michael Wath and Sir Thomas de Evesham.

Not being able to give our personal presence at Nottingham on Monday next after the feast of St. Matthew, we have thought fit to appoint you, with others, our proxy.

15 Sept.

[Bishop Ralph] to Master Robert de Chiggewell.

We have thought fit to appoint you, with Sirs Thomas de Evesham and Michael de Wath, to be present at the said "treaty" in our name.

1035. xiij Kal., Oct., at Banewell.

Fol. 148. Letters dimissory for Walter Bryce, deacon, to the order of priest.

Same day. Brother William Walle, canon of Taunton, deacon, to the order of priest.

Same day. Master Thomas La Witta, subdeacon, to the order of deacon.

Same day. John atte Stokke to the order of acolyte.

Same day. Richard de Moniton, acolyte brother of the hospital of St. John, of Bristol, to the order of subdeacon.

Same day. Robert Langerigge, subdeacon, to the order of deacon.

xij Kal., Oct., Robert Strodesheye, subdeacon, to the order of deacon.

1036. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because William La Zouche Mortimer, and Hugh Le Despenser, knight, Master Roger de Mortymer, archdeacon of Wells, Thomas de Castro Goderici, parson of the church of Merlowe, diocese of Lincoln, Master William de Kenemerton, parson of Flampstede, of the same diocese, and John de Hampslade, parson of Staunton, diocese of Ely, on the 27th day of Feb., in the 8th year of our reign, in our chancery, acknowledged that they owed to Asselmo Symonete, merchant of Luca, 266*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.*, which they have not paid. Cause 133*li.* 6*s.* 8*d.* to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the said Roger in your diocese. We have commanded our sheriff of Southampton that he cause 133*li.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, the residue, to be levied from the goods of the said Hugh and Roger in his bailiwick.

Witness ourself at the vill of St. John, 22 July, in the 10th year of our reign.

1037. Bishop Ralph, executor to provide Thomas Basset, of Hengstrigge, a poor deacon of his diocese, with an ecclesiastical benefice at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston, to the archdeacon of Wells.

We commit our offices to you to enquire touching the life and conversation of the said deacon.

Banewell, xi Kal., Oct., A.D. 1336.

1038. John de Chyu admitted x Kal., Oct., at Banewell, to the church of Nyuton Seyntlo, at the presentation of Sir John de Sancto Laudo, knight.

1039. John, archbishop of Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph.

Although the collectors of the sexennual tenth have orders by apostolic letters that they deposit the money so to be levied in

the cathedral churches or other safe places, nevertheless we ask you that, for certain causes, you deposit the whole tenth for one year collected in your diocese with the merchants of the society of Bardi, at London.

Leicester, 14 Aug., in the 3rd year of our translation.

1040. Bishop Ralph to the president of the jurisdiction of the deanery of Wells, and to all holding dignities, &c., in the church of Wells, and also to the prior of the hospital of St. John and the perpetual vicar of St. Cuthbert, of Wells.

Certain sons of perdition have attacked our very dear sons the dean and canons, vicars of our church of Wells, and others, and also have attacked strangers in our palace of Wells being with the said dean, and have detained them in custody against their will, and also have wounded clerks in holy orders. Wherefore we command you that you denounce all and singular such bold persons and their accomplices to have fallen into the sentence of (the greater) excommunication, with ringing of bells, &c

Dated, &c.

1041. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Fol. 149. Cause William de Hampton, your clerk, to come before our justices on the quindene of St. Michael to answer to Lawrence de Wynterbourne, clerk, of a plea that he render to him 40*s*.

Witness J. de Stonore, 16 June, in the 10th year of our reign.

Return. This writ came so slowly we could not execute it.

1042. v Id., Oct., Sir John Stede instituted into the church of Orchardeslegh at the presentation of Henry Mereland, vacant by the resignation of Richard Nony, of Hanyngdon.

1043. Same day. Letters dimissory for Ralph Bvye, sub-deacon, to all orders.

1044. v Id., Oct. The testament of Lawrence de la Barre was proved, and administration committed to John, his brother.

1045. Same day. The lord dispensed with Thomas, rector of Camelegh, that he can remain in the schools for a year.

1046. Sir William de Wynton admitted iij Id., Oct., at Banewell, to the parish church of Netelcombe, at the presentation of John de Ralegh.

1047. Memorandum quod ij. Idus Octobris, apud Banewelle, dominus Walterus de London, Decanus ecclesie Wellensis fecit obedientiam venerabili patri domino Radulpho Dei gratia Bathonensi et Wellensi episcopo in camera ejusdem patris Presentibus magistris Johanne de Carleton et Johanne de Middelton et Willelmo de Ludeforde notario publico sub ista forma vel consimili verborum: Ego Walterus de London, Decanus ecclesie Wellensis, ero obediens domino Radulpho nunc Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo et ejus successoribus et ministris in licitis et canonicis mandatis eatenus quatenus teneor, ad hec sancta Dei Ewangelia. W. de Ludel[ord] N. sub anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ xxxvj.

1048. Bishop Ralph to the prioress and convent of Kanyngton.
We have granted to Joan Wason and Maude Poer that they, with two "dammoisselles," by your assent and will, may live in your house of Kanyngton till Easter. Banewell, 14 Dec.

1049. xiij Kal., Nov., at Banewell. The lord admitted Thomas Sampson, clerk, having the first tonsure, to the church of Saltford, at the presentation of Sir Walter de Rodeneye.

1050. Same day. Licence for John de Chaumflour and Richard de Clyvedon to have divine services in the chapel of St. George of Pottyngthrop, in the parish of Banewell.

1051. Bishop Ralph to all.
We constitute Masters Stephen Trippe, canon of Wells, and John de Walton, clerk, our proctors in all causes and matters to us pertaining at the apostolic see.
Banewell, A.D. 1336, 20 Oct.
Present, Masters John de Carleton, canon of Wells. John de Middeltone, rector of Schepton Beauchamp, and William de Cammel, notary public.

1052. Bishop Ralph to all.

We constituted Stephen Trippe and John de Walton our proctors; by the tenour of these presents we revoke the said procuratory.

Banewelle, x Kal., Nov., A.D. 1336.

1053. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph.

We forbid that you admit a parson to the church of Compton Martyn, concerning the advowson of which contention is moved in our court between John Wake and Philip de Columbariis and Eleanor his wife and James de Audeleye.

Witness ourself, at Nottingham, 27th Sept., in the 10th year of our reign.

Fol. 150. 1054. Memorandum quod ij[e] [Kal.] Nov. dominus apud Banewell concessit Isabelle Fichet perendinacionem cum una domicella usque ad festum Pasche in prioratu de Canyngton.

1055. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We commend you that you have 54*li.* which you owe us of the rent of Congresbury, Ceddre, and Axebrugge, also the arrears, at our Exchequer on the morrow of St. Martin.

Witness H., bishop of Lincoln, our treasurer, 14 Oct., in the 10th year of our reign.

1056. Pro negotio in curia domini regis expediendo.

Bishop Ralph to Henry, bishop of Lincoln.

Vobis ad gratiarum quantas possumus assurgimus actiones, vestram reverenciam attencius deprecantes quatinus dilecto clerico nostro Magistro Roberto de Litherpull, in negociis vobis ex parte nostra per eundem seriosius exponendis fidem credulam adhibentes, ipsa negocia cum favore et gratia expedire dignetur vestra paternitas reveranda.

1057. Letter to Sir W. de Stowe to expedite the matter in the Exchequer, and under the same form to Sir William de Euerdon, canon of Wells.

Carissime, de vestra affectione quam ergo nos geritis; multiplici rerum experiencia informati, ad vos pre ceteris recurrimus in agendis, &c.

1058. iv. Id., Nov., at Evercrich, the lord instituted William Heghen, acolyte, of the diocese of Exeter, to the parish church of Radyngton at the presentation of Robert de Radyngton.

1059. Henry, bishop of Lincoln, to Bishop Ralph.
We have received your letters in these words.
Whereas Master Simon de Bristol, rector of Barthon, of your diocese, and Philip de la Lee, rector of Bledon, of our diocese, propose to exchange their benefices, we commit our offices to you.
Banewell, xiv Kal., Nov., A.D. 1336.
We have instituted the said Simon to the church of Bledon, in the person of Richard de la Lee, clerk, his proxy.
York, iij Kal., Nov., A.D. above.

1060. iij Id., Nov., at Evercrich, the lord instituted Master Richard de Morcestria, priest, to the church of Luccombe, at the presentation of Oliver de Sancto Johanne.

1061. John, bishop of Exeter to Richard de Morcestria, rector of Zunstowe.
We grant you special licence to demise your said benefice and that you may obtain another cure in another diocese.
Exeter, 8 Nov., in the 10th year of our consecration.

1062. iij Id., Nov., at Evercrich.
The lord granted to Sir Hugh Saunzauer, rector of Spertegraue, that he can absent himself till the feast of St. Michael next. Nevertheless he shall reside in his said church in Lent and shall distribute 20*s.* or the value of 20*s.* amongst his poor parishioners. He shall expend 60*s.* on the houses of his rectory before the feast of St. Michael.

1063. Litera missa Michaeli Wath et sub eadem forma Thome de Evesam.
Carissime, quoad numerum hominum excessivum preceptis regiis parochianis nostris impositum, prout lator presencium novit, vos plenius informare mitigacionem aliqualem procurare velitis nostris precibus et amore, seu potius intuitu caritatis:

tot enim collectis talliis, exactionibus et oneribus innumeris hactenus inauditis et insolitis opprimuntur, quod absque mendicitatis opprobrio eis residue non suppetunt facultates.

Fol. 151. 1064. Disposicio ecclesie de Henton.

To all the faithful of Christ to whom the present writing shall come, William [Button i.], by divine permission bishop of Bath and Wells, greeting in the Lord everlasting.

Litigation was moved between Gilbert de Sarr', rector of Earl's Henton, of the one part and the prior and convent of Locus Dei, of Henton, of the Carthusian order, of the other part, concerning three virgates of land which once were the demesne of the church aforesaid, and concerning the tithes as well great as small issuing from the demesne of the said prior and convent, and concerning the tithes as well great as small issuing from 12 virgates of land which were the villeinage of the same prior and convent, in the time of Jocelin, formerly bishop of Bath, at the instance of both parties they submitted themselves to our ordinance, as in the letters of submission hereupon made, more fully is contained. We ordain that the said prior and convent shall have all the said demesne land for ever, and that they shall be exempt from the payment of all tithes for their demesne and villeinage for ever. Moreover we ordain that the same prior and convent shall hold the said church at farm for ever, entirely, and from the fruits and issues of the same they shall provide for 15 marks to be paid annually to the said rector. All exaction or payment which by the ordinance of our said predecessor could belong to the rectors in the said church shall cease. The prior and convent shall provide a fit chaplain at their costs to serve the said church, with a competent clerk. The prior and convent shall have a house which shall be of the said rector for ever. The said Gilbert and the rectors who for the time shall be, shall sustain the charge of repairs, the chancel, books, vestments, and ornaments.

Letters of submission.

The prior and convent of Locusdori, (*sic*) of Henton. We promise, subjecting ourselves and all our goods at Norton, to observe the said ordinance.

Henton, xv Kal., Dec., A.D. 1262.

Gilbert de Sarr̃, rector of Earl's Henton. I promise for me and my successors to observe the ordinance: granting that the same lord and his successors may compel me by the sequestrations and distraint of the goods which I have in the same church.

Banewell, xv Kal., Dec., A.D. 1262.

In testimony of all which things as well the prior and convent as the said rector have set their [seals].

Banewell, xv Kal., Dec., A.D. 1262.

1065. John, archbishop of Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 152.

We have received the within written letters of the nuncii of the Apostolic see.

Hugh, bishop of St. Paul of Trois-Châteaux, and Roland de Aste, canon of Laon, chaplain of the lord the pope, and auditor of the causes of his sacred palace, nuncio of the Apostolic see, to John, archbishop of Canterbury, greeting.

We have received the Apostolic letters under this form.

Benedict, the bishop, &c., to the archbishops and bishops, &c. Whereas we have provided Hugh, bishop of Trois-Châteaux, and Master Roland de Aste, nuncii of the Apostolic see, to the parts of England and Scotland to determine matters concerning the peaceable state of the same kingdoms, we ask all of you that you will receive the same nuncii kindly and that you take care to provide the same bishop with 6*li.* and the said chaplain with 50*s.* small tournois every day when going, dwelling and returning.

Dated ij Kal., Aug., in the first year of our pontificate.

As long as we shall stay in your diocese we commit our offices to you to collect the payments due to us according to the form of the Apostolic rescript.

London, 21 March, A.D. 1335.

Whereas in the convocation lately assembled at London it was ordained that ½*d.* should be collected from every *li.* of all ecclesiastical goods and benefices of our province of Canterbury for the payments due to the said nuncii, we order you that you cause ½*d.* to be collected from every *li.* of ecclesiastical goods and benefices of your city and diocese of Bath and Wells. And cause the money to be paid to Sirs Nicholas Hosebounde

and John de Pateneaye, minor canons of St. Paul's, on the feast of the Nativity of S. John the Baptist.

Otteford, iv Non., Ap., A.D. 1336.

Certificate.

They are taxed at a tenth as in the schedule annexed.

Blakeforde, xvij Kal., July, A.D. 1336.

1066. Bishop Ralph to Ralph Thomas Le Porter, of Cleve, clerk, of our diocese.

We have received the letters of Gaucelin, bishop of Albania, penitentiary of the pope, in these words.

Gaucelin, &c., to the bishop of Bath or his vicar in spiritual matters. Ralph Thomas Le Porter of Cleve, clerk, the bearer of these presents, going to the Apostolic see, supplicated that whereas he suffers under illegitimacy notwithstanding such defect he may be promoted to all orders and hold an ecclesiastical benefice. To you therefore we commit that, having considered the circumstances, you will dispense with him.

Dated vi Kal., Ap., 2 Pope Benedict xij.

And we dispense with you.

Clyue, xiij Id., June, A.D. 1336.

1067. 4 May, A.D. 1336.

The bishop granted to Sir Robert Hildebront, of Coclynton, that he shall not be disturbed concerning non-residence before the date of these presents. Also that he can stay in the service of the lady of Lurcy till Christmas next.

1068. Bishop Ralph to Peter de Cotes, priest.

We institute you to the church of Chiselbergh, of our diocese, vacant by reason of exchange by Sir John de Clyf, last rector, for the church of Exton, said diocese, the rector of which you were. To which you were presented by John de Renefeld, patron of the church of Cheselbergh.

Blakeford, vij Kal., Aug., A.D. 1336.

Fol. 153. 1069. Bishop Ralph to Sir Nicholas Tryuet, rector of Ieuelton.

Attendentes quod edificia et cancellus ecclesie tue predicte non absque gravibus expensis constructa ruine subjacent mani-

feste, et quod tot et tales in dictis edificiis cancello ac ipsius ecclesie ornamentis imminentes defectus notorii, quorum refectio et reparatio ad te nouimus pertinere, quod, nisi in ea parte celerius remedium curemus apponere, dicta edificia et cancellum funditus ruere et ornamenta hujusmodi penitus deperire continget in tuum et ecclesie tue predicte obproprium et jacturam. Volentes igitur talibus dispendiis prout convenit obviare ut ecclesiam tuam predictam venerabili viro domino Rogero, archidiacono Tantonensi, advunculo tuo, nos in hac parte pro se interpellanti et in se onera refectionis et reparacionis hujusmodi admittenti per triennium a data presencium continue numerandum ad firmam valeas dimittere et in ipsius durante dicto termino commitia morari, sic quod interim ad residenciam personalem in ecclesia tua predicta minime tenearis ex causis predictis, licenciam tibi concedimus per presentes . . .

Hanc nostram licenciam vero debite et complete edificia predicta cancellum et ornamenta infra triennium predictum refeceris et reparaueris volumus esse nullam.

1 June A.D. 1336. Nicholas Tryuet, rector of Ieuelton, in the chamber of Bishop Ralph, at Wyvelescombe, swore that he will not agree to any exchange for his church without the assent of the bishop.

On the same day the same Nicholas, in the hall of the said bishop, took an oath under this form.

I, Nicholas Triuet, bind myself to the repairing of the houses of my church of Ieuelton and other defects within three years.

If I do not repair the houses, chancel, and other defects within three years, within three months after the lapse of three years I will pay 40 marks to the fabric of the church of Wells unless I can obtain grace from the bishop.

1070. ij Kal., June. John Prince, perpetual vicar of Chippenham, diocese of Sarum, was admitted to the church of Sweyneswyk, at the presentation of Roger Stottescombe, by reason of exchange for the vicarage aforesaid.

Same day. The bishop of Bath and Wells, by authority of a commission of the bishop of Sarum, admitted Thomas de Rysdon, late rector of Sweyneswyke, to the vicarage of Chippenham.

1071. Bishop Ralph to all.

The monastery of Kanyngton being lately vacant by the death of the lady Wiilelma de Blachyngdon, late prioress, and the election of the lady Joan de Beare, a nun of the same place having been celebrated, we have confirmed the said election 3 June, A.D. 1336.

Dated at Wyvelescumbe.

Bishop Ralph to Monsieur Robert Le Fitzpain.

Sire, we make known to you that we have confirmed the election of Dame Joan de Beare as prioress of Kanyngton, of our diocese and your patronage.

Wyvelescumbe, 3 June, A.D. 1336.

Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Taunton.

We have confirmed the election of Joan de Beare, nun of Kanyngton, as prioress. We order you that you install the said lady Joan.

Bishop Ralph to the subprioress and convent of Kanyngton.

The election of the lady Joan de Beare as prioress of the same monastery having been fully discussed; because we find that the election was rightly celebrated, we have confirmed the same. We command you that you be obedient and aiding to the said lady Joan.

Joan de Bractone, subprioress of Kanyngton, and the convent of the same place to Bishop Ralph.

Our monastery being vacant by the death of the lady Willelma de Blackyngdon, who died 4 May, A.D. 1336, and licence having been obtained from Sir Robert Fitzpagn, patron of our monastery, we assembling on the 17th of the same month for the election of a prioress, caused warning to be given by the lady Lucy de Raleghe, our nun, that if any were suspended, excommunicated or interdicted that they retire from the chapter and place.

Whereupon we thought fit to choose three nuns, viz., the ladies Joan de Beare, Christiana Robe, and Alice de Holtham, our nuns, to whom we gave power that they should inquire the votes of all, first their own and afterwards ours, and they having been put down in writing, anon they published them in common. We found that the ladies Christiana Robe, Alice de Holtham, Margaret de Hampton, Avice Reyners, Lucy de Popham, Joan de Alwynesheye, Matilda de Northelode, Joan Trimelet, Alice de

Northelode, and Agnes de Nywemarch directed their votes on the said lady Joan de Beare, and the ladies Joan de Bracton, the subprioress, and Joan de Bearė on Avice Reyners, and Lucy de Raleghe on Joan de Bracton, and so two parts of the chapter directed their votes on the lady Joan de Beare. And we solemnly chanting "Te Deum laudamus" brought our said elect to the high altar of our church according to custom, and we caused her said election to be published to the clergy and people by the said lady Alice de Hotham to whom we committed our offices. But afterwards about the sixth hour of the same day, the election having been presented, the said lady Joan asserted that she would consider. And again, about the hour of vespers, the said elect being requested that she would give her assent to the said election, unwilling to resist the divine will, assented to our votes. Therefore we supplicate your reverend fatherhood that you will deign to confirm the same election.

Kanyngton, 17 May, A.D. abovesaid.

Anno 1336, May 17. The ladies Joan de Bractone, sub- Fol. 154.
prioress Lucy de Raleghe, Joan de Beare, Margaret de Hamptone, Christiana Robe, Avice Reyners, Alice de Holtham, Lucy de Popham, Joan de Alwynesheye, Matilda de Northlode, Joan Trymlet, and Alice de Northlode, professed nuns of the monastery of Kanyngton, order of St. Benedict, assembled in the presence of me the public notary and the subscribed witnesses, and forming the convent or college as they asserted, a certain brother of the order of Friars Minors then being personally constituted in the chapter house publicly propounded the word of God before the said subprioress and nuns and others then being present there. Which having been propounded, and the lay and secular people having been excluded, except the said subprioress, the nuns, two witnesses, and me the said public notary, and the hymn "Veni creator spiritus" having been solemnly chanted, and the licence to elect having been read [here follows a recital of the election in almost the same terms as the document immediately preceding].

Present. Masters John de Middleton, rector of Scheptonebeauchamp, and Stephen Trippe, rector of Westcamel.

And I, William de Ludeford, clerk, public notary, saw all these things done.

Fol. 155. We, Joan de Bractone, subprioress of the monastery of Kanyngton, being vacant, and the convent of the same place give and grant to the lady Lucy de Raleghe, a nun of our house and monastery aforesaid, power to require suspended, excommunicated and interdicted [nuns] to retire from the said chapter and places, &c.

17 May, A.D. 1336.

We, Joan de Bracton, subprioress of Kanyngton, Agnes de Nywemarch, Lucy de Raleghe. Margaret de Hamptone, Avice Reyners, Lucy de Popham, Joan de Alwynesheye, Matilda de Northelode, Joan Trimelet, and Alice de Northelode, professed nuns of the said monastery appoint the ladies Joan de Beare, Christiana Robe, and Alice de Holtham scrutators, in the matter of the election in our monastery.

17 May, A.D. 1336.

We, the subprioress and convent of Kanyngton, appoint the lady Alice de Holtham our proctor to present to the lady Joan de Beare her election as prioress and to ask her assent to the said election.

17 May, A.D. 1336.

We the subprioress of Kanyngton and the convent, constitute Sir William de Trente, vicar of Kanyngton, and John de Wyvelescombe, clerk, our proctors to present to Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, certain letters concerning the matter of the election of the lady Joan de Beare as prioress.

Kanyngton, xv Kal., June, A.D. 1336.

1072. Bishop Ralph to all.

Omnibus parochianis nostris et aliis quorum diocesani hanc nostrum indulgenciam ratam habuerunt et acceptam, de peccatis suis vere penitentibus et contritis, qui ad subvenencionem et subsidium hospitalis sancti Johannis Bathon', ac debilium et infirmorum qui eodem non absque largicione et eleemosinis fidelium sustentantur manus qualitercunque apposuerunt adjutrices, aut animabus eorum quorum corpora in cimiterio dicti hospitalis per nos dedicato in Christo, quiescunt humata, animabusque omnium fidelium defunctorum, ac pace et tranquillitate Regis et regni Anglie oracionem dominicam cum salutacione Angelica

dixerint mente pia, quadraginta dies de injuncta sibi penitentia misericorditer in Domino relaxamus.

Blakeford, 9 June, A.D. 1336.

1073. We, Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, having inspected the register of the lord John de Drokenesforde, our immediate predecessor, find in the same that Master John de Faryngdon, then rector of Northbarwe, on Saturday *quatuor temporum* next after the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, viz., viij Kal. Oct., A.D. 1317, in the parish church of Milvertone, was ordained acolyte by our said predecessor.

Blakeforde, 9 June, A.D. 1336.

1074. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Wells.

In negotio nobis auctoritate predicta commisso in hunc modum—Benedictus episcopus servus servorum Dei. venerabili fratri episcopo Wellensi, &c., Sua nobis Henricus de Yrigge clericus in minoribus ordinibus constitutus, Exon' diocesis, peticione monstrauit, quod cum inter ipsum et Johannam filiam Rogeri de Hunyngton, mulierem dicte diocesis, coram officiali archidiaconi Barnastapolie in ecclesia Exon', ad quem causarum matrimonialium cognicio in archidiaconatu suo Barnastapolie in eadem ecclesia in quo dicte partes consistunt de antiqua et approbata et hactenus pacifice obseruata consuetudine pertinet, non ex delegacione apostolica matrimonii questio verteretur. Idem officialis perperam in causa hujusmodi procedens diffinitivam contra eundem Henricum sententiam promulgauit a qua dictus Henricus ad sedem apostolicam appellauit. Cum autem dictus Henricus sicut asserit propter potenciam dicte Johanne quam merito perhorrescit, presenciam venerabilis fratris nostri episcopi Exoniensis cui esset in hoc casu scribendum non audeat adire secure, fraternitati tue, per apostolica scripta mandamus quatinus de sententia ipsa cognoscens legitime quod canonicum fuerit, appellatione remota, decernas, faciens quod decreveris per censuram ecclesiasticam firmiter observari.

Avinion, Non., Feb., in the second year of our pontificate.

We commit our offices to you.

Blakeford, iv Id., June, A.D. 1336.

1075. Bishop Ralph to all his archdeacons and their officials, and to the rural deans, rectors, vicars and chaplains throughout his diocese.

Cum itaque gloriosa nostra mater ecclesia Bathoniensis, altera sedes nostra, sit insignis ecclesie cathedralis ab antiquo mirifico presagio decorata, Vere dignum et justum est equum et etiam salutare ut populum nobis subjectum ad augmentacionem ejusdem matricis ecclesie exhortacionibus salutiferis inducamus, et eo cicius et seruencius quod singuli nostri subditi ex prescripte consuetudinis laudabilis debito, per oblationes que pentecostales communiter nuncupantur, solebant ecclesiam ut matrem recognoscere prelibatam, illis dumtaxat acceptis qui veniunt ad nostram ecclesiam Wellensem visitandam ab oblacionibus faciendis dicte Bathoniensi ecclesie sunt immunes. Que quidem oblaciones non absque desidia eorum, qui suos ad hujusmodi oblaciones parochianos tenebantur inducere, sunt a dicta Bathon', ecclesia quasi penitus jam subtracte prout nobis, dilectorum filiorum prioris et capituli dicte nostre ecclesie querela lamentabilis patefecit . . . Vobis et cuilibet vestrum in virtute obediencie firmiter injungimus et mandamus quatinus vos archidiaconi, officiales et decani predicti, clerum et populum vestre jurisdictione subditos, ac vos rectores, vicarii et capellani parochiales, parochianos vestros, omnes et singulos, districtis monicionibus, et efficacibus exhortacionibus, inducatis, quod hujusmodi oblationes solitas solvere studeant ut tenentur . . . Omnibus et singulis parochianis nostris vere confessis penitentibus et contritis qui hujusmodi oblaciones agnoscunt, de injuncta sibi penitentia, quadraginta dies de Dei omnipotentis misericordia, . . . relaxamus, &c.

Berlich, 7 May, A.D. 1336.

1076. Bishop Ralph to Master Robert Hereward, archdeacon of Taunton.

Fol. 156. Master Thomas de Columbrugge, rector of Combeflory, and Sir Geoffrey de Reyny, rector of Stanleghe, of our diocese, intend to exchange their said benefices. And we, not wishing for certain causes to attend to the arranging of the exchange, the presentations by the prior and convent of Taunton to the church of Combeflory and by Sir John Le Reyny, knight, to the

church of Stanlegh having been received commit our offices to you to institute.

Blakeford, iij Id., June, A.D. 1336.

1077. xv Kal., July. Master Thomas de Columbrugge instituted to the church of Stanleghe and Sir Geoffrey Le Reyny to the church of Combeflory.

1078. xiv Kal.; July, same year.

The bishop granted to Master Philip de Weston, rector of Mersston, that he can absent himself from his church for a year.

1079. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

It has been intimated to us on the behalf of Master Robert de Nettelton, clerk, that although on his behalf fearing that grave prejudices might be generated to him about his state it was appealed to the Apostolic see, you ordered and caused him to answer before your commissary, one, Robert de Lytherpol, pretending that he was your commissary who fulminated the sentence of the greater excommunication on him. Wherefore it is appealed to us on behalf of the said Robert. Wherefore we order that you do not attempt any prejudice pending the appeal. Also we cite you and by you the said Robert de Lytherpol to appear before us.

Nastoke, iij Id., June, A.D. 1336.

1080. Bernard Sistre to Bishop Ralph.

If Hugh de Ingalisma, bishop of Carpentras, and Master Icherius de Concoreto, nuncios of the Apostolic see, or the commissaries, &c., deputed by them have unduly burdened any, received rewards, or defrauded the Apostolic chamber, inform yourself by your archdeacons and deans and transmit us the information. Fol. 157

London, 20 April, A.D. 1336.

1081. Bernard Sistre to Bishop Ralph.

A letter in the same terms as that recited in Bishop Ralph's second letter to Bernard Sistre fol. 146.

Dated at London, 29 May, A.D. 1336.

1082. Reverend father and lord, we wonder that you have not sent the money due by you to the chamber of our lord the pope for arrears of the fruits of the first year. We ask your fatherhood that you will cause it to be answered here at the 15th day of the instant feast of the Nativity of the B. John the Baptist, at London.

London, 11 June.

1083. Bishop Ralph to the King.

Walter atte Grove on account of his manifest offences has been drawn into the sentence of greater excommunication. We supplicate the aid of the secular arm.

Blakeford, viij Kal., July, A.D. 1336.

[Cancelled].

1084. Bishop Ralph to the prior and chapter of Bath, holding the church of Hampton.

Considering the distance of the places and the hazards of the ways between the said church and the place of habitation of the vicar, we grant you licence that you can construct a house for the habitation of the vicar in the east part of the cemetery outside the place accustomed for the procession.

Blakeforde, 1 July, A.D. 1336.

Fol. 158. 1085. Capcio regia.

Excellentissimo principi ac domino suo reverendo domino Edwardo Dei gratia regi Anglie; illustri domino Hibernie et duc-Aquitannie, Radulphus permissione divina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, salutem in eo per quem reges regnant et principes dominantur. Excellencie vestre tenore presencium intimamus quod Walterus atte Grove, parochianus noster, propter suas manifestas offensas in sententia majoris excommunicationis, qua auctoritate ordinaria legitime extitit innodatus per quadraginta dies et amplius animo indurato pertinaciter perseveravit et adhuc contemptis ecclesie clavibus, perseuerat. Cum igitur ecclesia ultra non habeat quid faciat in hac parte vestre regie celsitudini humiliter supplicamus quatinus ad ipsius excommunicati rebellionem salubrius reprimendam in eum exercere dignemini auxilium brachii secularis. Ut quem Dei timor a malo non reuocat, seueritas coherceat custodie carceralis.

Valeat et crescat semper in Christo vestra regia celsitudo.
Datum apud Blakeforde, viij Kalend Julii, anno Domini millesimo cccmo tricesimo sexto.

1086. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Wells.
We commit our offices to you to absolve Thomas Panes from the sentence of excommunication if he incurred such by violent laying of hands on John Benetorre.
Blakeford, iv Id., July, A.D., 1336.

1087. Bishop Ralph, executor to provide John de Curkada, a poor priest of the diocese of Exeter, with a benefice at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Muchelney, to Masters Walter de Hulle, subdean, and John de London, canon of Wells.
We commit our offices to you to enquire concerning the life and conversation of the said priest.
Blackeford, iv Id., July, A.D., 1336.

1088. Memorandum quod Thomas Torney de Aldrynton, Sarum diocesis, impetravit ad collationem abbatis et conventus monasterii Glaston' sub data ij. Id. Marcii, et pontificatus anno secundo. Et datus est ei. Subexecutor prior ecclesie Bathoniensis, cum clausula, "reservata inductione."
Datum apud Blakeford iij. Id. Julii anno Domini millesimo cccmo tricesimo sexto.

1089. Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quorum noticiam presentes litere pervenerint. Radulphas permissione divina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus salutem in Domino sempiternam. Cum locus in civitate nostra Bathonia qui Bisshopesbour vulgariter nuncupatur. et placea sibi adjacens sint nobis penitus notorie inutiles et fuerunt nostris predecessoribus a magnis temporibus retroactis edificiaque gravibus sumptibus in eodem loco constructa ruine subjaceant manifeste quorum reparacio et refectio multo majores sumptus requirerent et expensas, quamodo ipsa edificia reparata et refecta utilitate seu commodum forent nobis seu nostris successoribus imperpetuum, allatura. Quibus diligenter pensatis, et attendentes quod dicti locus et placea sint ita vicini

prioratui ecclesie nostre Bathon', quod uno tantummodo pariete intermedio conjunguntur, et quod dicti locus et placea propter ipsorum vicinitatem priori et capitulo ecclesie nostre Bathon' predicte tribuere poterunt solacium et profectum, usum dicti loci et placee adjacentis cum aliis aisiamentis pertinentibus ad eundem priori et capitulo concedimus per presentes, ita quod in dicto loco possint et debeant edificare et edificia constructa reficere, ac de hujusmodi edificiis libere disponere et ordinare imperpetuum . . Reservatis nobis et successoribus nostris usu et habitacione ac omnibus aisiamentis in predictis loco et placea ac edificiis in eisdem loco et placea ac edificiis in eisdem loco et placea jam constructis et imposterum construendis quocienscumque quandocumque nos et successores nostros contigerit ad ecclesiam nostram Bathon' declinare.

Blakeford primo die Julii anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo tricesimo sexto.

1090. Ricardus Ricardi clericus Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis impetrauit ad collationem prioris et conventus Tauntonie sub data, ij. Id. Marcii, anno pontificatus secundo. Et datus est ei. Subexecutor prior ecclesie Bathon' cum clausula, "reseruata inductione."

Datum apud Blak[ford]. Id. Julii anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo tricesimo sexto.

1091. Universis presentes literas visuris Radulphus permissione diuina Bathonensis et Wellensis episcopus salutem in Domino Iesu Christo. Constitutis in presencia nostra Rogero Burgeis de Tauntonia et Alicia Brete uxore ejusdem nostre diocesis, nobis dictus Rogerus humiliter supplicavit, quod praehabita licencia uxoris sue volentis continenciam in forma debita promittere licenciam ingrediendi religionem sibi concedere dignaremur. Nos vero pensatis ipsius negocii circumstanciis universis cum uxor sua predicta sit senex et possit absque suspicione incontinencie in seculo remanere, concessa sibi primitus religionem intrandi licencia per eandem coram nobis in forma juris continenciam perpetuam promittentem, concurrentibus hiis que in ea parte de jure requiruntur, eundem quatenus in nobis est religionem intrare permittimus per presentes.

Datum apud Blakeford quinto Kalend Augusti anno Domini millessimo ccc^mo tricesimo sexto.

1092. Bishop Ralph to John, archbishop of Canterbury. Fol. 159.

Vestram siquidem discrecionem scire credimus preelectam quod quamquam comitatus Somerset nedum in collectis et talliis set ipse comitatus mari adjacens in custodia maritima pro hostilibus incursibus onera quasi importabilia subiit retroactis temporibus et subire noscitur in presenti. Idem tamen premissis oneribus, ad tria milia hominum cum sumptuoso apparatu armorum et expensis grauissimis, preceptis regiis oneratur, quibus absque penuria dictus comitatas non posset sufficere, discursibus jam currentis seculi ponderatis. Ad hec igitur pii patris oculos taliter dignetur convertere vestra reuerenda dominacio, ut dicti filii vestri et parochiani nostri saltem quo ad numerum hominum eisdem jam impositum, vestra promocione previa possent in aliquo relevari.

Euercrich, 12 Nov.

Bishop Ralph to Henry, bishop of Lincoln, the King's treasurer, on the same subject and in almost identical terms.

Bishop Ralph to Master Robert de Chigewelle.

Comitatus enim Somerset ad tria milia virorum, cum sumptuoso armorum apparatu et expensis eorundem gravissimis per tres septimanas preceptis regiis jam taxatur . . . Vos igitur erga domini nostri regis consiliarios, qui super afflictos pia gestant, viscera instare velitis ut dicti parochiani nostri, vestra promocione preuia, possent, quoad dicta onera, saltem in aliquo, relevari . . .

1093. Sir Geoffry de Sutton, vicar of Cherleton Adam, ix Kal., Dec., at Everecrich, was admitted to the vicarage of the prebendal church of Tymbrescomb, to which he was presented by Master John de Carletone, prebendary of the same prebend, by reason of exchange with Sir John Aluard, vicar of the same vicarage.

Also, on the same day, the same John was admitted to the vicarage of Cherleton Adam at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruyton.

1094. Oath of the official of the archdeacon of Bath.

Same day Master John de Bokelonde, at Everecrich, took an oath that he will satisfy William Cammel for 5 marks from the next issues of the ardeaconry of Bath.

Present Master J. de Carleton and Walter Tymel.

1095. Statute passed in the Parliament at Nottingham on Monday next after the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle 10 Edw. iii, as to the mischiefs which have happened to the people through the excessive and over-many sorts of costly meats used by them, and ordering "that no man, of what estate or condition soever he be, shall cause himself to be served in his house or elsewhere, at dinner, meal or supper, or at any other time, with more than two courses, and each mess of two sorts of victuals at the utmost, be it of flesh or fish, with the common sorts of pottage, without sauce or any other sort of victuals."

[Printed in "Statutes of the Realm," vol. 1, p. 278.]

1096. v Id., Dec. The lord dispensed with Sir Robert, rector of Melles, that he can stay with Thomas de Heyham, his kinsman, till the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula.

1097. Sexto Idus Decembris dominus contulit auctoritate apostolica vicariam de Wyvescomb.

Pody (*sic*).

Fol. 160. 1098. iv Id., Dec. The lord admitted Master John de Farendon to the church of Middelton by reason of exchange with Sir William de Broynton for the church of St. Stephen, diocese of Worcester.

Same day. William de Brynton, admitted to the church of St. Stephen at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston, viz., at Everecrich.

Simon, bishop of Worcester, to Bishop Ralph.

Sir William de Brynton, rector of Middelton, of your diocese, and Master John de Farendon, rector of St. Stephen, Bristol, of our diocese, propose to exchange their benefices. We commit our offices to you to admit the said Sir William.

Honynton, ii Id., Nov., A.D. 1336.

We [Bishop Ralph] have instituted the said Sir William.

1099. xix Kal., Jan., A.D. 1336, 2nd years of the pontificate of Pope Benedict xii.

Thomas de Haselschaue, rector of Chyeu, at Euerecrich took an oath that he will be obedient to Bishop Ralph and his successors.

1100. The day before the Nones of January. Sir Henry Le Blount instituted to the chantry of Swelle at the presentation of Sir Henry de Lurcy.

1101. Bishop Ralph to pope Benedict.

Sane quam sit ad probacionem rerum gestarum propter debilem humanam memoriam officium tabellionatus officium necessarium, efficax experiencia manifestat. Fideli siquidem notariorum ministerio si ipsorum ut esset utile haberem copiam ecclesiarum vestrarum michi commissarum negocia varia indies occurencia expedicionem cicius caperent debitam et votiuam, Vestre igitur dominacionis clemenciam duxi suppliciter deprecandam quatinus, premissa benignis occulis intuentes, aliquos creandi notarios michi concedere dignemini facultatem.

Scriptum Wellie xx die Decembris.

1102. Summons to attend the Parliament at York on Monday the feast of St. Hilary next.

Teste at Botheuille 29 Nov., 10 Edw. iii.

[Printed in "Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament," p. 188.]

1103. The King to Bishop Ralph.

Licet nuper super diversis et arduis negociis nos et statum regni nostri contingentibus Parliamentum nostrum apud Ebor ad diem Lune in festo sancti Hillarii proximo futuro tenere et ibidem vobiscum et cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus dicti regni colloquium habere voluissemus et tractatum . . . Quia tamen certis ex causis Parliamentum predictum usque ad Octabas Purificationis B. Marie Virginis proximo futuras apud dictum locum Ebor tunc tenendum duximus prorogandum . . . Vobis insuper in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tene-

mini firmiter injungendo mandamus quod, omnibus aliis pretermissis, in dictis Octabis personaliter sitis apud dictum locum Ebor nobiscum et cum prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus supradictis super dictis negociis juxta vim et effectum prioris mandati nostri vobis directi tractaturi, vestrumque consilium impensuri. Et hoc, sicut nos et honorem nostrum ac tranquillitatem et quietem regni nostri diligitis, nullatenus omittatis. Premunientes priorem et capitulum ecclesie vestre Bathoniensis, ac decanum ac capitulum ecclesie vestre Wellensis, archidiaconos totumque clerum vestre diocesis quod iidem prior, decanus et archidiaconi in propriis personis suis, ac utrumque capitulorum predictorum per unum, idemque clerus per duos procuratores idoneos plenam et sufficientem potestatem ab ipsis capitulis et
Fol. 161. clero habentes, dicto loco in dictis Octabis intersint, &c.

Teste me ipud apso Botheuill, x. die Decembris anno regni nostri decimo.

1104. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause David Maynard, prebendary of the prebend of Ilton, in the church of St. Andrew, of Wells, to come before our justices on the quindene of St. Hilary to answer to Master Walter Botriaux of a plea that he render to him 20*li.*

Witness I. de Stonore, at York, 20 Oct., in the 10th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused David Maignard, clerk, to be cited.

1105. Cause 38*li.* 10*s.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of Philip de la Lee, parson of Bleodon, which you sequestered to the value of 10 marks, and from his other ecclesiastical goods.

Witness A. de Lymbergh, at York, 14 Nov., in the 10th year of our reign.

Return. We send you four marks.

1106. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because our sheriff of Somerset returned at our Exchequer on the quindene of St. Michael last that Peter Pyke, is a clerk of your diocese and has no lay fee in the county aforesaid, we command you that you distrain the said Peter by his ecclesiastical benefices that he be before the barons of our Exchequer, at

York, on the quindene of St. Hilary to testify to a certain writing which John Le Say, of Mertoke, lately proffered before the same barons against Richard Pyke, knight, of acquittance of a certain recognisance of 100*li.*, made to the same Richard by the said John.

[Witness] A. de Lymbergh, at York, 14 Oct., in the 10th year of our reign.

Return. We have distrained Peter Pyke, clerk.

1107. Bishop Ralph to Robert Trippe, rector, of Lymplesham acolyte.

You may follow the study of letters for a year in a place where a university, or general study flourishes. "Et quod interim ad superiores ordines recipiendos promoveri minime tenearis nisi ad ordinem subdiaconatus dumtaxat tecum, juxta formam constitucionis. Cum ex eo."

1108. Bishop Ralph to all, &c.

Know ye that we have given, granted, and by this our present writing have confirmed to John de Somerton, Stephen his brother, and John de Horthurne, our one toft, with the place adjacent, with their appurtenances, in Nethersomerton, for the laudable service of the aforesaid John de Somerton bestowed on us. To have and to hold to the aforesaid John, Stephen and John for their whole life. Paying to us and to our successors one rose annually at the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, &c.

Evercrich, 12 Jan., x Edw. iii.

1109. iij Id., Jan. The lord dispensed with Thomas de la Rewe, rector of Greynton, having the first tonsure, that he could study for a year.

The same Thomas had letters dimissory to all minor orders and to the order of subdeacon, at Evercrich.

1110. iij Non., Feb., in the year abovesaid. The lord dispensed with James de Molton, rector of Craucombe, that he could study for a year. The same James had letters dimissory to all minor orders.

1111. iiij Non., March. The lord, at London, admitted

Nicholas de Kyngeston to the church of Compton Martyn, at the presentation of the lord John Wake. And licence was granted to him to study for a year.

1112. Same day. The lord sent to the archdeacon of Wells or his official, for the induction of Sir Hugh de Waymouth into the church of Corscomb, to which he was admitted by the bishop of London by reason of exchange for the church which he formerly held, at the presentation of Sir Elias Cotel.

1113. xvi Kal., Ap. The lord, at Folham, admitted William Reod, priest, to the vicarage of the parish church of Lidierd Episcopi.

1114. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Know that John Wake recovered his presentation to the church of Compton Martyn against John de Audele. Admit a fit person at the presentation of the said John.

Witness J. de Stonore, 23 Feb., in the 11th year of our reign.

Fol. 162. 1115. Bishop Ralph to the rectors of Cherlton Makerel and Kyngesdon.

Ad petendum et admittendum quoscumque clericos coram quibuscumque domine nostri regis Justiciariis seu aliis quibuscumque judicibus secularibus qualemcumque cognicionem obtinentibus in quibuscunque locis nostrarum civitatis et diocesis super quocunque maleficio seu crimine irretitos ad Curiam seu forum ecclesiasticum juxta regni et ecclesie consuetudines ac ordinis clericalis libertates et privilegia remittendos, vobis et utrique vestrum committimus vices nostras, &c.

Evercrich, Id., Januarii anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo xxxvi.

1116. Prorogation of the Parliament till Monday next after the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle next, at Westminster.

Teste at Westminster 14 Jan., x Edw. iii.

["Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament," p. 190].

1117. Bishop Ralph to the abbot and convent of Keynesham.

Sane vestra nobis exhibita peticio quod in partibus Hibernie

de vestris ibidem redditibus non modicam summam pecunie solebatis percipere ex quibus tam propter diversitatem hominum illarum parcium, quam propter guerras que in ipsis partibus ante hec tempora contigerunt et varios hostiles incursus quibusdam annis nichil omnino potestis percipere: ac quod non solum domus vestre ibidem constructe, et alia vestri monasterii diversa bona mobilia, sed quod horribile est audire, ecclesie Deo dedicate appropriate vobis et vestro monasterio in ipsis partibus penitus sunt combuste, quodque non modica pars terrarum vestrarum tam in istis quam Wallie partibus per inundacionem maris terris adjacentis eisdem fluentis et refluentis redditur et efficitur sterilis absque fructu, sic quod ad sustentacionem Canonicorum in vestro monasterio degencium, hospitalitatem tenendam debitas largiendo elemosinas et alia onera importabilia indies vobis et vestro monasterio imposita non suppetunt hiis diebus, vestre et vestri monasterii facultates que dilectus filius noster, carissimus amicus vester Walterus de Rodenye, miles, diligenter attendens et vestre condolens paupertati, jus patronatus ecclesie parochialis de Westharpetre dicte nostre diocesis in subsidium indigencie vestre, et pro sue ac antecessorum et successorum suorum animarum salute de consensu exellentissimi principis et domini, domini Edwardi Dei gratia regis Anglie illustris et aliorum quorum in ea parte requirebatur consensus vobis et vestro monasterio concessit, contulit, et donauit. Quare nobis ut dictam ecclesiam de Westharpetre cujus estis veri patroni cum suis juribus et pertinentiis in manifeste paupertatis vestre et vestri monasterii relevamen, divinique cultus augmentum vestro unire et appropriare monasterio, ac vobis in usus proprios concedere dignare mu humiliter supplicastis. Nos peticionem vestram iustam veram et racionabilem reputantes, causasque nobis in hac parte expositas canonicas decernentes, ac vestre inopie paterno compacientes affectu, dictam ecclesiam de Westharpetre cum suis juribus et pertinenciis universis vobis et vestro monasterio, habito cum capitulis nostris Bathon' et Wellen' tractatu solempni et diligenti, qui requiritur in hac parte, de consensu ipsorum capitulorum nostrorum canonice unimus, appropriamus, et in usus proprios concedimus auctoritate ordinaria per presentes. Ita quod rectore ipsius ecclesie cedente vel decendente, ad vicariam ipsius ecclesia valeatis

personam idoneam libere presentare . . . Juribus dignitate et honore nostris ecclesiarumque nostrarum Bathon' et Wellen' quatenus presentibus unioni et appropriacioni non obviant in omnibus semper salvis, et salva una pensione annua sex solidorum et octo denariorum fabrice ecclesie nostre Wellensis predicte, et alia pensione annua duorum solidorum archidiacona nostro Bathoniensi in recompensacionem fructuum tempore vacacionis ipsius ecclesie de Westharpetre, dictis nostris ecclesie et archidiacono debitis. Quasquidem pensiones annuas et reales annuatim in ecclesia nostra Wellensi in festo Pasche prefatis fabrice ac archidiacono per vos abbatem et conventum cum dicte ecclesie de Westharpetre realem habueritis possessionem solvendas eidem ecclesie de Westharpetre ex causa predicta inponimus per decretum . . . Vicarius qui pro tempore fuerit in eadem habeat omnes domus rectorie ipsius ecclesie cum columbari, curtillagio et gardino adjacentibus, exceptis et reservatis vobis grangiis, boveriis, stabulis cum placea viciniori taliter limitata, protrahendo scilicet directe per murum juxta magnam portam usque ad finem tocius clausi rectorie predicte, ita quod magna porta cum camera superedificata contineatur infra placeam vobis abbati et conuentui deputatam. Habeat insuper dictus vicarius domos pro capellano parochiali dicte ecclesie solitas deputari. Percipiatque dictus vicarius omnes et omnimodas decimas, oblationes, et obvenciones et proventus . . . exceptis dumtaxat et reservatis vobis abbati et conventui, terra, prato, bosco de gleba ipsius ecclesie et communa tam in bosco domine Johanne de Gurnay quam aliis locis et pasturis pro vestris animalibus ibidem depascendis ac tenentibus ejusdem ecclesie quibuscunque cum redditibus, heriettis et aliis serviciis eorundem. Et exceptis ac vobis . . . reservatis decimis garbarum et feni . . . ac pensione annua ab ecclesia de Porteshefd ipsi ecclesie de Westharpetre debita ab antiquo . . . Ad inveniendum panem, vinum, incensum, cereos, processionales, et alia luminaria in ecclesia predicta, libros ejusdem ecclesie ligandum, vestimenta lavandum et reparandum quatenus premissa ad rectorem pertinere solebant, dictum vicarium tantummodo volumus onerari.

Everecrich, iv Kal., Dec., A.D. 1336.

1118. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Although we commanded our treasurer and barons that they Fol. 163. should cause the *270li.* granted to us by the clergy in our great council at Nottingham, in the diocese of Bath, to be paid to Richard de la Pole, our butler, in part payment of 1,866*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* in which we are bound to him: nevertheless because the same Richard promised in good faith to pay the said money to us at London on Monday next after the feast of St. Gregory the Pope next, to be expended for divers very urgent affairs touching us and the state of our realm. We command you that you have the said *270li.* at London without further delay to be delivered to the said Richard.

1119. 1 April, A.D. 1337. The lord, at Hywysch, at the instance of the abbot of Muchelneye, granted to Sir Nicholas de Somerton, rector of Kynewarston, that he can follow in the service of the said abbot for a year.

1120. Non., Ap., A.D. 1337.

Letters dimissory for Nicholas de Kyngestone, rector of Compton Martyn, to obtain the order of subdeacon.

1121. Same day. The lord dispensed with John de Middelnye, rector of Cory Ryue, that he can go to the schools for a year.

1122. Bishop Ralph to the clergy and people of his diocese.

When the messengers of the poor lepers of the house of the B. Mary Magdalen, of Langport, come to you to ask a subsidy of your alms receive them liberally and kindly.

Wyvelescombe, vi Id., Ap., A.D. 1337.

1123. John, archbishop of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

The sexennial tenth lately granted towards the subsidy of the Holy Land is recalled. We command you that you cause the tenth of all ecclesiastical benefices in your diocese granted to the King for the necessary defence of the Anglican church and of his kingdom to be levied and exacted.

Lamebeth, xij Kal., Ap., A.D. 1336.

1124. Bishop Ralph to all the archdeacons, deans, rectors, and parish chaplains.

Cum igitur ad perfeccionem fabrice ecclesie conventualis Tantonie dicte nostre diocesis ad honorem Dei et gloriose virginis Marie et beatorum apostolorum Petri et Pauli inchoate, dicte domus proprie non suppetant ut asseritur facultates . . . Hanc nostram indulgenciam ratam habuerint et acceptam de peccatis suis vere penitentibus, contritis et confessis qui ad predictam fabricam subsidia contulerint caritatis aut manus apposuerint adjutrices, quindecim dies de injuncta sibi penitentia in domino misericorditer relaxamus. Quascumque insuper indulgencias benefactoribus dicte domus hactenus rite concessas nihilominus ratificantes. Presentibus per annum dumtaxat duraturis.

Wyvelescombe, quarto Idus Aprilis anno Domini millesimo cccmo xxxvij.

1125. Dominus xiij Kalend. Maii, anno Domini millesimo cccmo tricesimo septimo, ratificavit factum domini Wygornensis episcobi in eo quod ordinavit Willelmum Le Chaundeler ad primam tonsuram.

1126. Bishop Ralph to John Ieoly, rector of the chapel Claverham.

Walter Morel, perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Iatton, has lost the use of his eyes. We appoint you his coadjutor.

Wyvelescombe, x Kal., May, A.D. 1337.

1127. Bishop Ralph to John Ioely, rector of the chapel of Claverham.

We grant you licence that you may let your chapel to farm to a fit person for two years.

Wyvelescombe, x Kal., May, A.D. 1337.

1128. Bishop Ralph to the King.

Vestre regie celsitudini tenore presencium intimamus quod Adam de Legh de Bruggewauter parochianus noster nuper auctoritate nostra ordinaria propter ipsius contumacias pariter et offensas ex officio contractas, majoris excommunicacionis

sententia innodatus, in qua perseuauerit per quadraginta dies et amplius; cujus pretextu ad ipsius reprimendam maliciam pro ipso capiendo vestre scripsimus regie majestati, est in forma iuris ab hujusmodi excommunicacionis sentencia absolutus.

Wyuelescombe, 22 Ap., A.D. 1337.

1129. Dimissio vicarii de Mynhefde.

viij Kal., Mar., A.D. 1337. Dominus Gilbertus Pyrow, perpetuus vicarius ecclesie parochialis de Mynhefde, fuit dimissus ab officio super assecucione dicte vicarie quoad institucionem suam.

1130. vi Non., May, A.D. 1337. Adam Hothale, priest admitted to the church of Baieworthe at the presentation of Eglina de Hampton.

1131. v Non., May, A.D. 1337.

The lord dispensed with Master Henry de Fouhope, deacon, rector of Broen, that he can study for a year in the university of Oxford.

1132. Bishop Ralph to all.

Meritorium propositum dilecte filie nostre Sibille de Forde juxta Bathoniam nostre diocesis optantis vitam salutariam seu anachoreticam ducere, et nobis perpetuam continenciam promittentis benigno favore ut conuenit prosequentes ut in camera ecclesie parochialis de Tyuerton nostre diocesis sanctuarium ejusdem ea occasione noviter construendum seipsam includere valeat ad prestandum altissimo inibi suo perpetuo famulatum quantum in nobis est licenciam concedimus in Domino specialem . . .

Qui ad subvencionem ejusdem Sibille infra sanctuarium ut premittitur incluse de bonis sibi a Deo collatis grata contulerint subsidia caritatis, aut manus aliqualiter apposuerint adiutrices, decem dies de iniuncta sibi penitentia misericorditer in Domino relaxamus.

Wyvelescombe, v Non., May, A.D. 1337.

1133. Bernard Sistre to the bishop.

We perceive by the relation of certain trustworthy men that formerly at the time of the quadrennial reservation of the fruits of the first year of the ecclesiastical benefices of England made by Pope John xxij many benefices were vacant in your diocese as are contained in your certificates, for the fruits of which benefices satisfaction has not yet been made. We order you that you enquire concerning all and singular benefices, &c., which were vacant in your diocese and study to certify us at the feast of the Nativity of the B. John the Baptist.

London, 10 March, A.D. 1336.

Fol. 165. 1134. Simon, Bishop of Worcester, to the rector and parishioners of the church of Tormarton.

That the church of Tormarton and the cemetery of the same polluted by the effusion of blood may be reconciled and the altars as well in the same church as in the chapel of the B. Mary erected near the same church may be consecrated by any catholic bishop, we grant to you and to such bishop special licence to reconcile and to consecrate them.

Hertlebury, v Id., Ap., A.D. 1337.

1135. The lord granted to Thomas Dru, of Temple Street (de vico Templi) Bristol, acolyte, viij Kal., June, A.D. 1337, at Pokel chirch. that he may be promoted to the orders of subdeacon and deacon.

1136. Bishop Ralph to Walter de Rodeny, knight.

Deuocionem tuam quam ad monasterium beate Marie de Kaynesham nostre diocesis te habere novimus et quam Ricardus de Rodeny pater tuus et Lucia mater tua dum vixerunt ad dictum habuerunt monasterium amplectentes, ut ipsorum corpora in ecclesia de Bakewelle dicte nostre diocesis, jam humata, ad predictum monasterium transferri valeant, et ibidem tradi ecclesiastice sepulture facultatem liberam quatenus in nobis est, tenore presencium inpartimur.

Datum Bristoll' xiiij. Kalend, Junii, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ tricentesimo septimo.

1137. vij Kal., June., A.D. 1337.

The lord dispensed with Master Philip de Weston that he can stay in the service of Sir John de Wylynton for a year.

1138. On the same day the lord reconciled the chapel of Cherlton Abbatis, near Kaynesham [Queen Charlton].

1139. xi Kal., June, A.D. above, the lord reconciled the church of Tormarton, diocese of Worcester.

1140. vii Kal., June, A.D. above, at Kaynesham, the lord relaxed the sentence of suspension put by his commissary on Sir Walter, chaplain of the parish of Kaynesham, by reason of a clandestine marriage celebrated by the said Walter, between Gilbert Ammerey and Christiana Underhulle in the parish church.

1141. Letter of manumission.

Radulphus, &c., dilecto filio Willelmo Egebrok nato Gilberti Egebrok, salutem, &c. Fusis pro te precibus fauorabiliter annuentes, ut clericali milicie ascribi valeas et ad omnes ordines minores et sacros licite promoueri, quacumque seruitute qua nobis aut ecclesiis nostris Bathonensibus et Wellensibus tenebaris non obstante, tibi liberam in Domino, concedimus facultatem.

Datum apud Jattone, ij Kal., Maii, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ tricesimo tercio.

1142. On the day of Holy Trinity, A.D. 1337, at Claverton Sir Thomas, rector of the church of Blakedon, paid to Richard de Sowy, apparitor of the lord, 66*s.* 8*d.* in full payment of five marks in which he was bound to the bishop.

1143. Stephen, bishop of London to Bishop Ralph.

We have received the mandate of John, archbishop of Canterbury, under this form. "Dum turbaciones graues et dissidia quibus regnum Anglie longis retro temporibus extitit, et adhuc est multipliciter involutum, attenta consideracione pensamus laudes devotas exsolvimus Regi regum qui, seminentibus tot adversis, dictum regnum de reparato celorum heritaculo sic

respexit, quod iam ad refrenandum inpetus adversancium regem habet et dominum inter ceteros catholicum et devotum . . . Verum tamen idem dominus noster rex ad reprimendum obstinatam Scotorum maliciam. qui sibi et suis prodicionaliter rebellionis calcaneum erexerunt . . . fraternitatem vestram carissimam votive rogamus et hortamur attente quatinus in debito librantes examine labores et pericula quibus idem dominus noster rex pro republica tam humiliter se exponit, pro felici progressu suo, sedulis insistatis orationibus apud Deum et ad id subjectos vobis clerum et populum efficaciter inducatis ac per vestras civitates et diocesim missas celebrari, processiones fieri oraciones et alio faciastis pietatis opera excerceri . . . Ipsis fidelibus de peccatis suis vere penitentibus et confessis, ut premittitur, facientibus supradicta, quadraginta dies indulgencie concedimus per presentes."

Datum apud Uffynton juxta Stanford, quarto Non., Junii, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo tricesimo septimo.

By authority of which we order you that you execute the said mandate.

Hadham, ij Id., June, A.D. above,

Fol. 166.

1144. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because John de Langeport, who admitted a day at our Exchequer to pay to Philippa, our consort, 135*li.* 22*d.* for the price of certain goods of Simon de Bereford forfeited to us, and granted by us to our consort, and because he has not kept that day, is a clerk and beneficed in your diocese, we command you that you cause the money aforesaid to be levied from his goods and ecclesiastical benefices in your diocese.

Witness R. de Sadyngtone, at York, 2 June, in the 11th year of our reign.

Return. We first received this writ this Wednesday, 3 July, and could not execute it on account of the shortness of the time.

1145. Bishop Ralph to Master William de Selton, priest.

We confer on you the canonry of Wells, and the prebend of Eston, vacant by the resignation of Sir William de Bryntone, by reason of exchange with the prebendal church of Stanton.

Wyvelescomb, iij Id., July, A.D. 1337.

Bishop Ralph to William de Brynton, priest.

We institute you to the prebendal church of Staunton in the person of Walter de Marleberghe, your proxy.

Wyvelescombe, iij Id., July, A.D. 1337.

At which day and place the said parties resigned their said benefices.

Present. Master John de Middelton, rector of Schepton William Cammel, clerk, and Walter de Bere "vir literatus."

1146. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

Sir Richard de Rokesbeare, perpetual vicar of Kyngeston, by his complaint has shown to us, that whereas you had inflicted on him, not being cited, being absent, and against the statute of the general council, the sentence of greater excommunication, that you sequestered the fruits, &c. of his vicarage, and ordered and caused the things sequestered, to be kept *sub arto*. The party of the said Sir Richard going to your presence prayed that you would relax the sentence and recall the sequestration, but you did not take care to do justice to him in the premises.

We order you that within fifteen days you cause fulness of justice to the said Sir Richard, otherwise we cite you to appear before us or our commissary.

Nastok, vi Kal., July, A.D. 1337.

1147. Bishop Ralph to Master John de Middeltone, rector of Schepton Beauchamp.

We commit our offices to you to hear and judge in whatsoever causes and matters pertaining to our cognisance, and to determine in such causes and matters, and to admit proofs of wills.

1148. xv Kal., Sept., A.D. 1337.

Philip de Norwyco, priest, admitted to the church of Sooke, at the presentation of Nicholas de Boleville [Sock Dennis].

1149. v Kal., Sept., A.D. above.

John de Cantokbury, priest, admitted to the church of Hemyngton, by the presentation of Sir Hugh de Courtenay

1150. ij Non., Sept., A.D. above.

The lord dispensed with Reginald de [Rugg]ewell, rector of Wydecombe, that he can stay in the schools of Oxford for a year.

1151. Same day. The lord dispensed with Robert Hildebrond, rector of Colyton, that he might stay in the service of the lady Sybil de Mohoun till the feast of the Nativity of the Lord next.

Fol. 167. 1152. Ordinance for the vicar of Burnham.

Bishop Ralph to all.

By the assent and common counsel of our chapter of Wells, we appoint to the vicar, the oblations of the whole parish, the tithes of hay and hemp, fish of the mills, lambs' wool, cheese, calves, foals, &c. Also hens issuing from Chursshut, and the herbages of the cemeteries of the church and chapel. He shall have a chaplain at his own costs to serve in the church. He shall pay the procurations to the archdeacon of Wells. He shall provide processional candles, incense, bread and wine for the celebrations of divine services, also bread and wine on Easter Day. He shall have the books bound, and the vestments washed.

Banewell, xv Kal., Sept., A.D. 1336.

1153. ij Non., Aug., A.D. above.

The lord dispensed with Sir Thomas de Denbredan, rector of Compton Pancefot, at the instance of the earl of Waren, that he can be absent for two years.

1154. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon and treasurer of Wells, Master John, rector of Ubbelegh, and William, rector of Staurewyk.

We commit to you our offices to proceed in all causes and matters against those who concealed the fruits and issues of the prebends and vicarages in our church of Wells, commonly called Combe first to fifteenth, or the stipends of the vicars performing the services of the B. Virgin Mary, and of the deceased in the same church, and to determine such causes and matters.

Wyvelescomb, viij Id., July, A.D. 1337.

Hic mutatur consecratio domini.

1155. The lord at Woky, iv Id., Sept., A.D. above, and in the beginning of the 9th year of his consecration granted letters dimissory for David Strete to all holy orders.

1156. iij Id., Sept., place and year aforesaid, the lord dispensed with Thomas Le White, rector of Camelegh, that he can follow the study of letters for a year.

1157. xiv Kal., Oct., A.D. above.

The lord admitted John Stede to the vicarage of Paulet, by reason of exchange for his church of Orchardeslegh.

Same [day]. Henry Tryuet admitted to the church of Orchardeslegh by reason of exchange for the vicarage of Paulet.

1158. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

It is intimated to us on the part of Sir Thomas de Hakulut, canon of Wells, and prebendary of Whythlakyngton, that, although the same Sir Thomas obtained the said canonry and prebend, and fearing prejudice it was appealed to the apostolic see, you nevertheless, and a certain Sir Richard de Chippenham, chaplain, disturbed him in his possession. Wherefore we prohibit you and the said Richard from attempting prejudice. Also we cite you to appear before us or our commissary in the church of St. Mary de Arcubus on the third judicial day after the feast of St. Faith the Virgin.

London. viij Kal., Aug., A.D. 1337.

1159. ii. Non., Oct., A.D. above.

The lord granted to Juliana, who was the wife of Elias Fitzpagn that she can have divine services celebrated in her chapel within the manor of Alampton, in the parish of Dicheszate for a year.

1160. vii. Kal., Nov., A.D. above.

Fol. 168. The lord granted to the rector of Wrokeshale that he can absent himself from his church till the feast of the Purification.

1161. The official of the court of Canterbury to Master John de Carleton, official of Bishop Ralph, or either.

The petition of Master Robert de Netleton, official of the archdeacon of Wells, exhibited to us, contained that, although from olden time it pertained to the official of the archdeacon of Wells to collect the pence of the Blessed Peter from persons of the archdeaconry of Wells who were wont from olden time to pay the said pence, fearing that prejudice would be generated it was appealed to the apostolic see, you nevertheless, Master John, and also Roger, dean of Frome, Richard, dean of Cary, Hugh, dean of Mershstone, William, dean of Iuelcestre, Thomas, dean of Axebrugge, and William, dean of Paulet, by authority of the venerable father aforesaid, forbad the said pence to be paid and delivered to the said Master Robert, the official. Wherefore we inhibit you that, pending the appeal in the court of Canterbury, you do not attempt prejudice. We also cite you and the said deans to appear in the church of the B. Mary de Arcubus on the 6th judicial day after the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist.

Nastok, xii Kal., Oct., A.D. 1337.

1162. 3 Oct., A.D. 1337.

The lord dispensed with William, rector of Wotton, that he can absent himself till Lent.

1163. viii Kal., Oct.

The lord dispensed with Robert, rector of Mells, till Christmas.

1164. 3 Oct., A.D. above.

Licence for Adam de Cheleworth, citizen of Wells, that he can have divine services celebrated in his chapel or oratory built within his dwelling-houses at Wells, for a year.

1165. Bishop Ralph to Robert Tripp, rector of Lymplesham.

You can follow the study of letters for a year.

Everecrich, iii Non., Oct., A.D. 1337.

1166. Id., Oct., at Banewell.

Nicholas, rector of Rempton, can absent himself for a year.

1167. Same day and place..
The lord instituted Nicholas de Iford to the church of Saltford, at the presentation of Sir Walter de Rodney, knight.

1168. Same day and place,
Roger de Pyncebek, late rector of Carleton Corly diocese of Lincoln, was admitted, by reason of exchange, to the church of Strete. And he can let his house to farm for a year.

1169. Bishop Ralph to the dean and chapter of Wells.
Cum nos diversos processus contra dominum Johannem de Acton militem super diversis criminibus et excessibus ex officio nostro fecerimus, vestre discrecioni innotescimus quod si super aliquibus vestram jurisdictionem concernentibus contra eundem incorrigibilem et heretecum pro tali processerimus nolumus nec intendimus quod vestre iurisdictioni ex hoc aliquale prejudicium generetur.
Euerecrich, viii Kal., Nov., A.D. 1337.

1170. Monday, the vigil of the apostles, Simon and Jude, A.D. 1337.
William de Umfreuyle, lord of Middelchynnoke, patron of the church of Middelchynnoke, in the chamber of the bishop, at Euerecrich, having consented that the bishop could give *commendare*, the church of Middelchynoke *in commendam*, from 1 March for six months.

1171. 7 Ap., A.D., 1338.
Adam, rector of Pyn, diocese of Exeter, and John Seede, vicar of Paulet appeared before us, J. de Carleton, official of the bishop, at Banewelle, who confessed that they are bound to Master John de Carleton, rector of Bloeden, for causes pertaining to the ecclesiastical court, in 10 marks.
Present. Master Stephen Trippe and Philip Taunsore.

1172. Non., Nov., A.D. 1337.
Licence for John de Barton to have divine services celebrated Fol. 169.
in his chapel of Wodebergh for a year.

1173. vii Id., Nov., A.D., above.

Licence for Elizabeth de Bourne to have divine services celebrated in her oratory of Bourne for a year before herself and her free family.

1174. Bishop Ralph to John, archbishop of Canterbury.

We have received the letters of Stephen, bishop of London in these words:

Stephen, bishop of London, to Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells.

We have received the mandate of John, archbishop of Canterbury, containing the mandate following:—

John, archbishop of Canterbury, to S. bishop of London.

Because we propose to lay the hand of consecration on Master Robert de Stretford, archdeacon of Canterbury, elected as bishop of Chichester, and confirmed by us on the feast of St. Andrew the apostle. We order your brotherhood that you cause all bishops and suffragans of our province of Canterbury to be warned.

Otteford, vi Kal., Nov., A.D. 1337.

By the tenour of these presents we warn you.

Hadham, iv Non., Nov., A.D. above.

Most reverend father we cannot give our personal presence but we consent to the consecration of the said elect as much as in us lies.

Evercrich, iii Id., Nov., A.D. above.

1175. Bishop Ralph to all.

Matthew Michel, our parishioner, explained that he laid violent hands on certain Friars Minors in our diocese, also that he arrested certain supplicates and whereas he has made satisfaction, we will cause him to be absolved from the bond of excommunication. And we have caused the grace of absolution to be bestowed on him.

1176. xiii Kal., Dec., A.D. 1337.

The lord dispensed with David, rector of Langrigge, that he can absent himself from the said church till the feast of St. Michael next.

1177. Same day.
The lord dispensed with the rector of Swyneswyk till the feast of St. Michael.

1178. xii Kal., Dec., above.
Robert Lutherpol, clerk, instituted to the church of Shepton Beauchamp, by the presentation of Sir John Beauchamp.

1179. xii Kal., Dec., A.D. above.
The lord dispensed with Andrew Loterel, rector of Cantokesheved, till the feast of St. Michael.

1180. Bishop Ralph, to John Fort, of Wolfton, of our diocese.
Because you were ordained to the first tonsure by John, our predecessor, not in contempt of the church but through innocence (inasmuch as you were illegitimately born). We dispense with you so that it may be lawful for you to minister.

1181. John, bishop of Exeter, to Bishop Ralph or his commissary.
We commit to you our offices to absolve Thomas de Molatone, clerk, from the sentence of greater excommunication by reason of savage and immoderate laying of hands on Sir Thomas Poddyng, rector of Ikesbourne, of our diocese, priest.
Clifte, 8 Oct., A.D. 1337.

1182. Bishop Ralph to his official.
Vobis firmiter injungendo mandamus quatinus moneatis et efficaciter inducatis Ricardum Marchesleghe rectorem ecclesie de Skilgate nostre diocesis quod cancellum domos et alia edificia ad dictam ecclesiam suam spectancia citra festum natiuitatis sancti Johannis Baptiste proximo futurum reficiat competenter prout status exigit ecclesie memorate: denunciantes eidem quod si monicionibus vestris non paruerit in premissis nos extunc sumptibus dicti Ricardi de fructibus ejusdem ecclesie defectus hujusmodi faciemus ut convenit reparari.
Euerecrich, viij Kal., Dec., A.D. 1337.

1183. Day before the Kal. of Oct., A.D. above. The lord Fol. 170.

dispensed with Sir Nicholas, rector of Kyngeston Seymour, for a year.

1184. iii Kal. Dec., A.D. above. The lord dispensed with William rector of Douelissh Wake till the feast of St. Michael.

1185. Bishop Ralph to Master John de Middelton, late rector of Shepton Beauchamp, priest.

Cancellariam ecclesie nostre Wellensis, vacantem et ad nostram collationem spectantem, tibi conferimus.

Wells, xiij Kal., Dec., A.D. 1337.

Official of Wells ordered to induct.

1186. Kal. Dec., A.D. above. Licence for John atte Bourne, rector of Writlyngton, to choose a confessor for a year.

1187. Prid. Kal., Oct., A.D. above. The lord dispensed with Thomas, rector of Hornebogh, for a year.

1188. We the prior and chapter of Bath granted that we are bound to Bishop Ralph in 20*s.* of annual rent for the use of a house in the city of Bath, called Bisshoppesbourne and the place adjacent within the walls of the close of the palace of the said father, within which is a place called Rekheye.

Bath, morrow of St. John the Baptist, 11 Edw. iii.

1189. To the Bishop of Winchester.

We intend to promote Master Simon de Bristol to the chancellorship of Wells. We pray that you will deign to present Master John de Middelton to the church of Bledon, by reason of the said exchange.

Euerecrich, — Dec.

To the lord by the [Bishop] of Winchester.

We present Master John de Middelton to the church of Bleodon.

Esschere, 9 Dec.

Adam, bishop of Winchester, to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas Simon de Bristol, rector of Bloedon, of your diocese and of our patronage, and John de Middelton, chancellor of

Wells, intend to exchange, we present the said John to the church of Bledon.

9 Dec., A.D. 1337.

1190. xij. Kal., Jan., A.D. above, at Banewell. John atte Slo, of Northcory, can have divine services celebrated in his oratory of La Slo for a year.

1191. Bishop Ralph to Roger, rector of Whitestaunton.

We have caused David Maynard, pretending that he is a canon of Wells and prebendary of Iltone, and rector of Babyngton, to be cited to show his title. We committ our offices to you in the said matter, and also to punish and correct excesses, &c., of our subjects.

Bath, xviij Kal., Jan., A.D. 1337.

1192. Institution of John de Middelton, priest, to the church of Bloedon. Fol. 171.

Bath, xviij Kal., Jan., A.D. 1337.

Archdeacon of Wells to induct.

Same day and place. Simon de Bristol, admitted to the chancellorship of Wells.

The lord's official to induct.

1193. The dean of St. Mary de Arcubus to John de Middelton, rector of Shepton Belli Campi, the bishop's commissary general.

Whereas we, in the cause of appeal by reason of the augmentation and assignment of the portion to the vicar of Wollauyngton, between the prior and convent of Goldclyve and Sir William de Monte, the vicar, appellant, condemned the appellant in the expenses because he did not prove his appeal. We intimate to you, that notwithstanding the inhibition vii. Id., Aug., A.D. 1336, you can do and execute what is your right.

London, xvi Kal., Nov., A.D. 1337.

1194. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Wells or his official.

In the progress of our visitation we caused some of our subjects of the archdeaconry of Wells to be cited. We inhibit you and your servants that they attempt prejudice.

Id., Jan., A.D. 1337.

Like inhibition to the archdeacon of Bath.

1195. Peter, titular of Sancte Praxedis, and Bertrand, titular of St. Mary in Aquiro, deacon, cardinals, nuncii to France and England, for the prosecution of great and arduous affairs, to Bishop Ralph.

The letter recites bull of Pope Benedict dated viiij Kal., July, pont. nostri anno tercio, ordering them, the nuntii, to convoke the archbishop's, &c., and to enjoin to them the prosecution of the matters. We want your advice concerning the premises.

London, iii Jan., A.D. 1338.

Hic mutatur annus Domini.

Fol. 172. 1196. iii Kal., Aprilis, A.D. 1338, apud Wyvelescombe. Thomas de Miluerton admissus est per dominum ad perpetuam vicariam de Woky et institutus in eadem ad presentationem subdecani Wellensis.

Same day. The lord's official, or Master Walter de Hulle commissary general to induct.

1197. In dedicacionibus et reconciliacionibus ecclesiaram ubi deminus percipiet. C. solidos, uel ultra, habeat cruciferarius pro feodo suo de illa summa dimidiam marcam, marescallus dimidiam marcam et clerici de capella non promoti unam marcam. Ubi autem dominus recipit sex marcas habeat cruciferarius profeodo suo .xl. denarios, marescallus xl. denarios, clerici capelle dimidiam marcam. Ubi vero dominus minus recipit, percipiat cruciferarius. ij. solidos, marescallus ij. solidos, clerici capella iiij. solidos. Ordinatum insuper existit quod absentes in negociis domini de precepto eiusdem pro presentibus habeantur. Et quod Willelmus Cammel quem dominus deputat receptorem in hac parte, sicut unus de clericis capelle, percipiat.

1198. ij Non., Aprilis, A.D. m. ccc. tricesimo octauo. Ricardus de Blechyngton habuit licenciam ut per unum annum possit confiteri Willelmo vicario de Canyngton quociens fuerit oportunum, &c.

1199. iii Kal., Ap., A.D. above. Aylmer Le Botiler, instituted to the church of Kyngeston Seymor.

Same day Archdeacon of Bath to induct.

1200. Non., Ap., A.D. above.

John Wike had licence to have divine services celebrated in his oratory of Wyke, in the parish of Jatton, for a year.

1201. iii Non., Ap., at Lymplesham. Adam de La More instituted to the chapel of Kyngeston near Ieuele, at the presentation of Walter Tryl.

1202. ii Non., Ap., A.D. above,

Stephen de Kyngeston, chaplain, instituted to the first chantry for the soul of Henry Husee, formerly dean of Wells, in the church of Wells.

Dean of Wells or his locum tenens to induct.

1203. Ordinatio cantarie.

On Friday the eve of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, in the 30th year of the reign of King Edward, son of King Henry, at Wells, it was agreed between Sir John de Godelee, dean of Wells, and the chapter, of the one part, and Richard de Plymstoke, Roger Husee, Robert Fayrmay, Roger de Milton, and John de Bampton, executors of the will of Master Henry Husee, formerly dean of the said church, of the other part. Viz :—

The said Sir John and the chapter and their successors shall pay to Sirs John Tappynge and Thomas de Milverton, chaplains, and to their successors 10 *li.* annually for ever. The said chaplains shall say Placebo, Dirige, and the Commendatio every day for the souls of the said Henry and of the father, mother, brothers and sisters of the same Henry, the lords Robert Burnel, William de Marchia, bishops of Bath and Wells, and Peter, bishop of Exeter, and for the healthful estate of the King, Margaret his consort, Edward his eldest son, and all their children, Walter, bishop of Bath, Sir John de Godelee, dean of Wells, and the other canons of the said church. Also for the souls of Sir John de Button, formerly provost of Wells, Reginald Husee, John de Brummore, Thomas Oweyn, and Alice his wife.

And they shall take a corporal oath that they will perform the said right. The said chaplains shall be perpetual and not vicars. The said dean and chapter bind themselves, their successors,

and their manors of Northcory and Wynescombe to pay the said 10*li.*

Wells, the day and year above.

Fol. 173. 1204. ii Non., Ap., A.D. 1338.

Master Benedict de Paston, clerk, admitted to the portion of the church of Crouckhorn which Master Richard de Clare, now deceased, lately held. Presentation of Hugh de Courteney, earl of Devon, and lord of Okhampton.

Archdeacon of Taunton to induct.

1205. Thomas, bishop of Worcester, to Bishop Ralph.

We have received your letters under this form.—

Richard de Felde, vicar of the greater church of Malverne, of your diocese, and Thomas de Blourton, rector of Tymbresberghe, of our diocese, intend to exchange. Agnes, who was the wife of Sir Michael de Waddon, knight, has presented the said Richard to the church of Tymbresbergh. We committ our offices to you. Welyngton, viij Kal., Ap., A.D., 1338.

We [Bishop Ralph] therefore have instituted the said Richard to the church of Tymbresbergh.

Hertlebury, iv Kal., Ap., A.D. above.

1206. viii Id., Ap., A.D. 1338, at Banewelle. Aylmer, rector of Kyngeston Seymor, has licence to study at Oxford for a year.

1207. Bishop Ralph to Adam, rector of Combe Pyn, diocese of Exeter, priest.

We commit to you the church of Middelchynnok *in commendam*, by consent of William de Umfreuille, patron.

London, Kal., March, A.D. 1338.

1208. vi Id., Ap., A.D. 1338, at Banewelle. Nicholas de Iforde admitted to the free chapel of Claverham at the presentation of Robert de Wykham, by reason of exchange with John Joly.

Same day. John Joly admitted to the church of Saltford by the presentation of Sir Walter de Rodeny, by reason of exchange with Nicholas de Iforde.

1209. Ordinatio vicarie de Wollauyngton.

Bishop Ralph inspects the ordinance made by John de Middelton, then rector of Shepton Beauchamp.

The vicar shall have the mansion with the curtilage. He shall take all oblations together with a tithe of hay, geese, &c. He shall have 1½ acres of meadow as hitherto he was wont. The vicar and his successors shall have a tithe of the sheaves of the 24 bond tenants of Sir Philip de Columbariis, each of whom sows 7½ acres every year, and a tithe of the sheaves issuing from the land of Roger de Mucheldevere and Richard Mey in the parish of Wollauyngton. Fol. 174.

They shall have all tithes of fruits in the crofts within the parish. Which crofts extend to 13 acres and more. The vicars shall provide candles, &c.

Because our seal is unknown to many, we have procured the seal of the dean of Poulet to be set to these things.

Wollauyngton, iii Kal., Aug., A.D. 1336.

The Bishop confirms it.

Banewelle, xij Kal., May, A.D. 1338.

1210. xiij Kal., May, A.D. above.

Andrew de Brumpton had licence to have divine services celebrated till the feast of St. Michael in his chapel of Walcote.

1211. Letters dimissory for Aylmer Le Botiler, rector of Kyngeston Seymor, to obtain all minor orders and the holy order of sub-deacon.

xiv Kal., May, as above.

1212. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

The petition of John de Conteville, rector of the free chapel of Alwarton, exhibited to us, contained that, although the same John had possessed the said chapel, being notoriously exempt from your immediate jurisdiction, and subject to the jurisdiction

of the dean of Wells, and on the part of the said John, fearing prejudice, it was appealed to the apostolic see. You, nevertheless, at the instance of John Alward, priest, ordered the said John to show his title to the said chapel, and as well by yourself as by John de Middelton, rector of Bledon, and Stephen Tripp, rector of Westcammel, your commissaries, disturbed the said John de Counteville. Wherefore we inhibit you and your commissaries pending the matter of appeal in the court of Canterbury.

xviij Kal., May, A.D. 1338.

Fol. 175. 1213. Bishop Ralph to the King.

From weakness of body and other impediments we cannot give our personal presence in the Parliament on the quindene of Easter. We appoint Master Robert de Chigwelle, clerk, our proxy.

Banewelle, 11 Ap., A.D. 1338.

1214. Litera secreta missa Magistro Ricardo de Bentesworth.

We cannot give our personal presence in the Parliament on the quindene of Easter. We ask that you will assist our proxies that our excuse may be admitted.

Banewell, &c.

1215. Litera secreta missa domino Henrico de Ferers, Camerario domini regis.

On the same subject. "Plese enfourmyr nostre seignur le Roi et autres grantz de notz desturbauncez."

Banewell.

1216. ix Kal., May, A.D. above.

The lord dispensed with Henry Russel, of Fouhope, rector of Broen, deacon, that he can follow the study of letters for a year.

1217. v Non., May, A.D. above.

Adam de Fladebury, admitted to the perpetual chantry at the altar of the Virgin Mary in the parish church of Wemedon at the presentation of Matilda, relict of Richard Wigebere.

1218. Deed by the master and brethren of the hospital of St. John, of Brugewater.

Whereas Roger de Wigebere, formerly patron of the church of Chilton and of the chapels of Ichestoke and Hunstighle to the same adjacent, conferred on us the patronage of the said church and chapels, together with one acre of land in the name of glebe, next the land of the parsonage, we give to the same Richard and to his heirs for ever a perpetual chantry for the healthful state of the said Richard and Matilda his wife, the king, queen, bishop of Bath and Wells, and the archdeacon of Taunton, and for the souls of Richard and Ela, father and mother of the said Richard de Wigebere, William his brother the knight, and Anthony de Bradenye, formerly canon of Wells, [all] deceased and for the souls and benefactors of the said Richard, in the parish church of Wemedon ; to which chantry the said Richard and his heirs and assigns shall present. (Regulations as to mode of presentation). The rights and appurtenances of the said chantry consist in all necessaries for the altar to celebrate the chantry and a messuage called Coteloueſſitte, with the appurtenances, in Wemeden. And also 61*s.* 8*d.* to be paid by us to the priest at three terms of the year. The said master and brethren are not bound to repair the church in anything by reason of the said chantry. If the said money be in arrear, the priest can distrain our lands in Wemedon and Durlegh ; and, nevertheless, we and our successors by the tenour of these presents will be bound and obliged on that occasion in 40*s.* to the fabric of the church of Wells in the name of a penalty as often as we shall be deficient.

Hiis testibus. Domino Philippo de Columbariis, Baldewyno Malet, Galfrido de Stawelle, Simone de Forneaus, militibus. Johanne de Popham, Johanne de Horsy, Symone de Bradenye. Matheo Michel. Willemo Le Coker.

In our chapterhouse of Brugewater. x Kal., July, A.D. 1333.

1219. 17 June, A.D. 1338, at Everecrich. Andrew Coppe, deacon, admitted and instituted to the perpetual chantry of Speketon at the presentation of Sir Robert Le Fitz Payn. Fol. 176.

1220. xvi Kal., June, A.D. above.

The lord granted to Thomas de Marleburgh, knight, that he can confess to Adam Denercy,of the order of Friars Minors, of Iuelcestre, for a year.

1221. xiij Kal., June, A.D. above.
Robert, rector of Oterhampton, can be absent till the feast of St. Michael. To leave a fit proxy there.

1222. vii Kal., June, A.D. above.
Adam de Icherton instituted to the chapel of Wryngton at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston.

1223. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.
The petition of John de la More, clerk, exhibited to us, contained that, although he was presented to the chapel of Kyngghestón near Yeuele by Sir Robert Fitz Pain, knight, you, at the instance of John de Tydelemyngton, did not take care to institute him, wherefore he has appealed. We inhibit prejudice. Cite the said John de Tydelemyngton to appear before us.
Nastoke, Id., May, A.D. 1338.

1224. iij Kal., June, A.D. above.
John de Trente, priest, instituted to the perpetual chantry of the B. Mary of Lymyngton, at the presentation of Henry Power.

1225. iv Id., June, A.D. above.
Licence for brother John de Grymston, of the order of Friars Minors, of the convent of Dorchester, to preach, hear confessions, impose penance and absolve.
Four others of the same order admitted according to the same form as appears by the letter of brother Henry Braundeston, viz. John Goldswayn, Thomas Iuelcestre, I. Corf. and and Philip Corf.

1226. ij Id., June, A.D. above.
The lord granted to Roger Le Gulden that he can have divine services celebrated in his chapel of Wike for two years.

1227. iv. Non., Feb., A.D. 1337.

Amice de la Heighe can have divine services celebrated in her chapel of La Hegh, in the parish of Wynesham, for two years.

1228. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 177.

The petition of Master David Maynard, canon of Wells and prebendary of Ilton, rector of Babyngton, exhibited to us, complained that although he had obtained the said canonry, &c., and possessed them, and fearing prejudice it was appealed to the apostolic see, you, pretending that the said David had not received holy orders, caused him to be cited for judgment. Wherefore we inhibit you and cite you to appear before us.

Nastoke, pridie Id., June, A.D. 1338.

Same to the same.

It was intimated to us on the behalf of Sir Adam Payn, rector of Stourton, diocese of Salisbury, that although he and all his predecessors from a time of which the memory of men is not to the contrary, had all tithes of the townships of Bogham, Gayspere, and Toppe and their fields, and fearing prejudice it was appealed to the court of Canterbury. Nevertheless Master John de Middelton and Stephen Trippe, your commissaries, at the instance of Hugh de Burton, rector of Penne, of your diocese, ordered the said Sir Adam to answer to them, and caused him to be cited for judgment. We inhibit you, John, and Stephen, and do you cause the said John and Stephen to be cited before us.

Nastoke, xvi Kal., July, A.D. 1338.

1229. Composition between the bishop and the archdeacon of Wells, at Woky, A.D. 1338, 28 May, as to the hearing of causes and proof of testaments. Present, Walter de London, dean of Wells, William de Luttleton, precentor, Simon Le Boteler, chancellor Richard de Thistelden, treasurer, and John de Wamberge, canon.

I, Walter de Hulle, clerk, public notary was present.

1230. Appointment of Simon de Farewege, rector of Suthlegh,

diocese of Exeter, to the office of general sequestrator and registrar of the consistory.

Woky, ii Non., July, A.D. 1338.

1231. v Kal., July, A.D. above.

Walter Gerard, chaplain, admitted, at Lymyngton, to the church of Socke, by the presentation of Nicholas de Bolevyle.

1232. vii Kal., July.

Philip de Weston, rector of Mersshton, can absent himself to follow in the service of Sir John Wylyngton for a year.

1233. xv Kal., Aug., A.D. above.

Licence for the master of St. Martin near Bristol to have divine services in the oratory of his manor of Poulet till Michaelmas.

1234. xi Kal., Aug., A.D. above.

Letters dimissory for William Le Touker, of Bath, for the first tonsure and all minor orders.

1235. Deed by Bishop Ralph.

Whereas Alice, who was the wife of William de la Fisshwere, holds of us and our successors for her life, one virgate of land in our manor of Chiw, at the Vischwere, know that we have granted the said virgate to John de la Vischwere and Thilota his wife. To have and to hold, after the death of the said Alice, to the said John and Thilota for their life and the life of the longest liver of them, of us and our successors. Paying 10*s.* annually. Saving to us and our successors the suit of our court of Chiw, and the fencing of our park of Westbury.

10 July, A.D. 1338.

Hiis testibus. Willelmo de Sutton, Johanne de Walle, Hugone Le Brun, Thoma de Northovere, Willelmo Gernoun.

1236. We, Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, appoint Sir John de Sancto Paulo, Thomas de Evesham, and Master John de Carleton, our proxies to appear in the council at North-

ampton, on the morrow of St. James the apostle next, to treat with the lord Edward, duke of Cornwall and earl of Chester.

Woky, xii Kal., Aug., A.D. 1338.

1237. ii Id., Aug., A.D. 1338.

Robert Broke instituted to the church of Farnburgh by the presentation of John Greyvill.

1238. Litera secreta. Fol. 179.

Bishop Ralph to Richard, bishop of London. We cannot give our personal presence in the council at Northampton. We pray your lordship will hold our absence excused.

Same to the same, to promote his excuses with lords and friends.

Consimilis litera fiebat episcopo Cicestrensi.

1239. Bishop Ralph to all.

We caused Thomas, "nativus Benedicti de Brugewater," perpetual vicar of Overwere, to be cited to show his title concerning the obtaining of the vicarage.

We ratify the induction.

Woky, xii Kal., Aug., A.D., 1338.

1240. 19 July, at Woky.

The lord admitted Reginald de Purytone, priest, to the church of Stratton St. Vigor, at the presentation of Sir Thomas de Bradeneston, knight.

1241. Bishop Ralph to his steward, bailiffs, and officers.

We have assigned to Monsieur John de la Ryvere the ward and survey of all our game in the county of Gloucester.

Woky, 24 Aug., 9th year of our consecration.

1242. Richard, bishop of London, to Bishop Ralph to attend the convocation at St. Paul's, London, on the morrow of St. Hieronymus next (wherein are recited the summonses to attend the council at Northampton, on the morrow of St. James the apostle to treat with Edward, duke of Cornwall and earl of Chester).

"Teste custode predicto apud Norhampton. v die Augusti anno regni nostri xij"[1]

Lambeth, 25 Aug., A.D. above [1338].

Fol. 180b. 1243. Richard, prior of Christchurch, Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph.

We have received the letters of the Nuncii of Apostolic see containing the tenour which follows: Peter, titular of St. Praxedis, and Bertrand, titular of St. Mary in Aquiro, cardinals, to the prior of Christchurch, Canterbury. (Recites letter of Pope Benedict, dated viij. Kal., July in the third year of his pontificate, concerning the necessaries to be provided for the Nuncii) and we sent Masters Byndum de Bandmellis and Peter Vaurelli, clerks, of the kingdom of France, to the parts of England; afterwards Peter Trenceliure and Peter Meruli from England to France, and the said Bertrand and Peter "Johannis" from London to the Roman court, subsequently Masters Giles de Benanto, dean of Leon, and Bernard de Nonodepno, canon of Beauvais, chaplains of the pope and auditors of the sacred palace, to the kingdom of France to transmit the matters committed to us. There are due for expenses by Byndum and Peter Vaurell, 31*li.* 8*s.*, John and Bertrand 10*li.* 5*s.* 5*d.* Peter Trenceliure and Peter Meruli, 4*s.* 8*d.* The same for the second time 77*s.* 4*d.* Bertrand and Peter Johannis going to the said court. 32*s.* The said auditors 10*li.* 2*s.* 2*d.* For a ship 10*li.* Expenses by Masters Peter de Corduba, of Pedroche, and Bernard Sistere, whom we sent to the King at Ipswich, going staying, and returning, 8*li.* 14*s.* Messengers, 3*s.* Expenses of our couriers to the Roman court, crossing over with Sir Geoffrey Scrop, 30*s.*

We commit to you that within twelve days you collect the said expenses amongst the prelates, clergy and ecclesiastics of the said kingdom and pay it to Sir Forceti of the Society of Bardi, or to the substitutes of Gerard Bonniseigne, a member of the same society, our proctor.

Fol. 181. Canterbury, 27 June, A.D. 1338. We have also received the letters of Sir Peter Burgitudionis, doctor of Roman laws, &c.

[1] Printed in Wilkins's *Concilia*, vol. i, p. 625.

(reciting bull of Pope Benedict to the archbishops, &c., informing them that he is sending the said Sir Peter to France and England for certain arduous matters and asking them to provide him with four florins of gold every day. Dated vj. Kal., July in the third year of his pontificate) and acknowledging that by virtue of the letters of John, archbishop of Canterbury, by the hands of Master John de Eccleshale, priest, and Thomas Rye, he received 52 marks for his expenses. The same archbishop or his chapter and other ecclesiastical persons are bound to contribute. Commissioning us to collect the money. The said Peter has caused this to be written by Simon de Cheryngge, clerk, public notary, at Dover, 22 Nov., A.D. above.

We have ordained this to be collected, and we command you to cause ½*d.* to be collected from every *li.* of ecclesiastical goods and benefices in your city and diocese.

Canterbury, 22 July, A.D. 1338.

1244. The dean of Wells to Bishop Ralph.

We received your letters, dated at Euerecrich, xi. Kal., Dec., A.D. 1337, ordering us to cite all appointed to dignities, &c., in the church of Wells to appear at your visitation, and have executed your mandate.

Wells, Id., Dec., A.D. above.

1245. Edward, duke of Cornwall, to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 182.

Nostre dit trescher seignur le Roi nous ay ia nouelmentz signifie aussibien par ses lettrez come par soen clerk et priue Mestre Roberd de Chigewelle et sest greuoisement compleynt, qe par defaute qil nad de quoy paier lez grauntz dez sez alliez, solonc coe qe lur estoit promys ils comencent ia a lascher et lurz bonez volauncez et sount en poynt de eaux alloigner et retrere de sa querele, si qil est mys en tieu meschiefe, qe sil ne scit le pluys hastinementz refresche et aide, il ne puit eschaper ne eschure qe aussibien soencorps demeigne et ses ligez gentz et foials esteamis en sa compaignie come soen roialme susdit vous et nous trestonz serroms noun pas soulement en poynt destre deshonurez, mes en tropdurement graunt peril. Par quoi nous vous prioms taunt come nous poons pluys qe eiauntz entiere consideratioun az meschiefes et peril susdit, et a coe qe en si graunt necessite nul ne

se puit ne ne doit excuser, a mettre la remedie et laide qil purra; voillez appeller devant vous vostre clergie a toute la hauste qe vous unqez purretz, et monstreez et expresseez plennement a eaux lestat dez busoignez auauntditez, lez voillez exciter et monoir par touz moenementz, et voiez esploitablez, qe vous sauer deuiser et penser a fin qil paient auaunt la mayn lez dismez par eaux grauntez par deaux anns proscheynz auenir, et qils lez eiente al Eschekerea la quinzeyne de seint Michel proscheyn avenir en toutes manoirez, si en voillez en droit de vous, faire et perfournir y ce mesme et signifier a nous trois iourz dauaunt la quinzeyne susdite, distinctement et apertement par votz lettrez coe qe vous en auerez fait et coment et de quoi nostre dit trescher seignur le Roi se purra et deuera adunqes affier.

Done souz nostre priue seal a Wyndesore le. v. iour de Septembre.

Mandatum super dicta litera directa omnibus archidiaconis.

Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Taunton.

Cause the abbots and priors in the archdeaconry of Wells having a convent under them to be cited to appear in our church of Wells on Wednesday next after the feast of St Michael to hear the letters and to consent to such relief as shall happen there to be ordained.

1246. Licence for Peter de Berkeleye, Robert Bromham, Thomas Pymperne, and William Spersalt, of the order of Friars Hermits, Bristol, to hear confessions. Claverton, xi Kal., Oct., A.D. 1338.

1247. Bishop Ralph to the hospital of St. Katherine near Bristol.

Whereas our commissary admitted Sir John de Malmesbury, chaplain, to the wardenship of the said hospital, at the presentation of Sir Thomas de Berklegh, lord of Berklegh, and instituted him, we command you that you aid the said John, and that the men and tenants satisfy him in respect of rents, &c.

Claverton, xi Kal., Oct., A.D. 1338.

1248. x Kal., Oct., at Claverton. The lord dispensed with Robert Broke, rector of Farnberne, having the first tonsure, to

stay in the schools for a year. And letters dimissory to obtain all minor orders which he has not got and to the holy order of subdeacon.

1249. vii Kal., Oct., 1338, at Claverton. John de Upton juxta Blockele instituted to the archpresbitery of the chantry of the church of Pokyngton.

1250. x Kal., Oct., annis ut supra. The lord dispensed with William de Ludeford, rector of Culmyngton, acolyte, for a year, at Claverton.

Same day. Licence for the same to let his church to farm for three years.

1251. vi Kal., Oct., A.D. above, at Clauerton. George Umfreville holding the first tonsure, instituted to the church of Estchynnok.

1252. Same day and place. Adam de Kent, priest, instituted to the church of Strete at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston. And immediately afterwards the same Adam, in the hall of the lord, at Claverton, took oath that if the church of Strete happen to be full at the time of the institution that he will simply leave the church, under pain of 40*li.* And afterwards Master John de Farendon, rector of Middleton, swore that he would take care to do this under the like pain.

1253. Day before Id., Oct. Sir William de ,[1] instituted to the church of Sevenhampton. He is to keep the lord indemnified against litigation on this occasion.

1254. Commission for Gilbert de Leddride, reader of the convent of Bristol, of the order of Friars Preachers, to hear confessions. Fol. 183.

Everecrich, xv Kal., Feb., A.D. 1336, and the 8th year of our consecration.

[1] Blank in MS.

Same day. Like letter for brother Robert de Henton, of the same order.

1255. The King's licence for Bishop Ralph to give the place of his palace in Bath, and the house called Bisshoppesboure, situate in that place, to the prior and convent of Bath in mortmain.

Teste at York, 4 July, in the 8th year of our reign.

1256. ij Kal., Feb., at Everccrich.

Letters dimissory for John de Pody, vicar of Wynescombe, acolyte, to obtain the order of subdeacon.

1257. iv Kal., Feb., at Everecrich.

Letters dimissory for John Mace, vicar of Chilterne, subdeacon, to obtain the order of deacon.

1258. iij Kal., Feb., at Everecrich.

The lord dispensed with John, rector of Ievelchestre, that he can stay in the service of Sir William de Monte Acuto for a year.

1259. Bishop Ralph to Master Richard de Bynteworth, professor of civil law, priest.

We confer on you the canonry of Wells and prebendary of Schaldeford, diocese of London, vacant by the resignation of Master Walter de Borle, by reason of exchange for the canonry and prebend which you held in the collegiate church of Chester, diocese of Durham.

Westminster, near London, v Id., March, A.D. 1336, and the 8th of our consecration.

1260. Commission for Stephen, bishop of London, to cause Master Richard de Bynteworth to be inducted to the prebend of Schaldeforde. [*s. d*].

1261. ij Non., March, at Westminster. The lord granted to Sir Andrew Luttrell, rector of Cantokesheved, that he can stay in the services of John, his brother, for a year.

1262. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 38*li.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to be made from the goods and ecclesiastical benefices of Thomas de London, rector of Kytenare, Master Stephen de Lodebury, dean of Hereford, &c., for the debt of the money of Edmund, late earl of Arundel.

Witness I de Schordich, at York, 11 Feb., in the 11th year of our reign.

Return. Thomas has no benefice or ecclesiastical goods in our diocese, nor have any of them.

1263. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Hugh, parson of Heghehamme, to come before our justices, at York, to answer to Walter de Puteney of a plea that he render to him 60*s.*

Witness J. de Stonore, 24 Nov., in the 10th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused the said Hugh to be cited.

1264. Bishop Ralph to Master Gilbert de Welton, advocate in the Court of Arches. Fol. 184.

For your defence, advice, and aid in acting for us we grant you an annual pension of five marks as long as you shall be an advocate of the said court.

Wyvelescomb, Saturday next before the Invention of the Holy Cross, A.D. 1337.

1265. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

You and the other prelates and the clergy of the province of Canterbury, for the defence of our kingdom, granted us in the congregation in the church of St. Paul at the time of the Parliament which we caused to be summoned at Westminster on Monday next after the Sunday in Mid Lent, in the 10th year of our reign, a tenth of your ecclesiastical goods and benefices. And afterwards, at Leicester, on Monday next after the feast of St. Michael next following [you granted] another tenth of your said benefices and goods. Granting expressly that if the sexennial tenth should happen to be recalled by the Pope, or, at least, in order that the exaction of a double tenth should not happen at the same time, whatever should have been collected or remained to be exacted in the name of the said tenth should be

assigned to us instead of such tenth granted by you and the clergy until we shall be satisfied for the biennial tenth granted to us as is aforesaid. And so, now the said sexennial tenth is recalled by the Pope, and divers sums of money are collected and levied in respect of the tenths aforesaid, we, wishing to be answered to as well for those sums as for that which yet remains to be paid of the same tenths, order you to levy the money to our use.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, the 1st day of April, in the 11th year of our reign.

1266. Certificatorium eiusdem.

We have assigned the prior of Bath to levy and collect the monies of the tenths aforesaid not yet collected. We have also ordered the same, whom before we appoined collector of the sexennial tenth as in the writ. We received the writ so slowly that we could not satisfy you at the term assigned.

Brugewater, Id., May, A.D. 1337.

1267. Commission from Bishop Ralph for the prior of Bath to collect the monies of the said tenth not collected.

Welyngton, vij Id., May, A.D. 1337.

1268. Summons to attend the council at Staunford on Friday the morrow of the Ascension of the Lord next to come.

Teste at Westminster, 23 Ap., in the 11th year of our reign.

Printed in "Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament," p. 192.

1269. Like summons to attend the council at Westminster on Monday next after the feast of St. Margaret the Virgin next.

Teste at Staunford, 21 June, in the 11th year of our reign.

Printed in "Dugdale's Summons to Parliament," p. 194.

1270. Writ to Bishop Ralph to have the tenths granted in the congregations of St. Paul's and Leicester at Westminster on Monday next after the feast of St. Margaret the Virgin at the latest, to be delivered to Master William de la Zouche, dean of St. Peter, of York, our treasurer, or John Charnelles, *locum tenens* of the said treasurer.

Staunford, 22 June in the 11th year of our reign.

1271. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 185.

Because Simon de Elleworthe, parson of Chilton, and Geoffrey de Wroxhale, parson of Bekyngton, executors of the will of John de Erlegh, deceased, clerks, of your diocese, have no lay fee, distrain them by their ecclesiastical goods and benefices so that they be before the barons of our Exchequer on the morrow of St. Michael, to render to us for the said John, together with Roger de Hyneton, their coexecutor, an account of the issues of the lands of Hugh Le Despencer, "Le Fuitz," and Master Robert Le Baldok.

Witness R. de Sadyngton, at York, 17 July in the 11th year of our reign.

Certificate.

We have caused Simon and Geoffry to be distrained.

1272. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Distrain the same Simon and Geoffrey, executors of the will of John de Erlegh, late one of the collectors of the scutage of Scotland in the 4th year of the lord Edward our father, in the counties of Somerset and Dorset.

Witness, &c., 17 July in the 11th year of our reign.

Certificate as above.

1273. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Peter de Sevenok, vicar of Stoke Underhameldon, your clerk, to come before our justices to answer to John Le Deveneys, of Winchester, "marchaunt," of a plea that he render to him 65*s*.

Witness, &c., 26 May in the 11th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused Peter de Sevenok to be cited.

"Consimile breve de verbo ad verbum fiebat pro Nicholao Tryuet, et consimili modo returnatum fuit."

1274. The King's writ to the archbishops, &c., assigning Bishop Ralph, John de Schordich, Master John de Blebury, and Walter de Rodeny as his deputies in co. Somerset for all things treated of in the council at Westminster.

Teste at Westminster, 2 Aug. in the 11th year of our reign.

[Printed in "Wilkins's Concilia," vol. 1, p. 622.]

Marginal note.

Aliud breve sub eodem tenore de verbo ad verbum excepto et mutato quod dies aparicionis in alio brevi est in crastino Exaltacionis sancte crucis apud Shirbourne, et mutato quod in comitatu Somerset.

1275. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph to cause the prelates and clergy of his diocese to be convoked at Wells on Wednesday next after the feast of the Nativity of the B. Mary next to treat concerning the expenses of restraining the French King and the Scots.

Teste at Westminster, 28 Aug. in the 11th year of our reign.

[Printed in "Wilkins's Concilia," vol. 1, p. 623, under "Convocatio cleri provincia Ebor."]

Fol. 186. 1276. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph.

We send you a schedule concerning the obligations to avoid the war between us and the King of France, ordering you that you cause the contents to be expounded to the clergy and people.

Teste at Westminster, 28 Aug. in the 11th year of our reign.

1277. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Taunton.

Enjoin to the abbots, priors, rectors of churches and others beneficed in the said archdeaconry that they personally appear before us or our commissary on Wednesday next after the feast of the Nativity of the B. Mary next in our cathedral church of Wells; and be you, archdeacon, personally present there to expound the intent and will of the King.

Wyvelescombe, ij Non. Sept., A.D. 1337.

Consimilis litera fiebat archdiacono Wellensi, archidiacono Bathoniensi, decano Wellensi, et abbati Glastonie.

1278. These are the offers made to the King of France by the King of England to avoid war.

First. The King of England sent solemn messages to the King of France asking him to return to him the lands in the duchy of Guyene. The King of France promised that if the King of England would come to him in his proper person he

would do right, grace, and favour to him. The King of England went to France, but the King of France did nothing in effect. "Item le Roi Dengleterre veannt la duresce le dit Roi de Fraunce pour auoir sa bone voillance et ceo qil luy detient atort, luy tendisit lez grauntz offrez souzescriptez. Cest assauoir quant une fuist refuse, tendist une altre."

First. The marriage of the Duke of Cornwall for the daughter of the King of France without taking anything with her.

The marriage of his sister, the Countess of Gelre, for his son with a very great sum of money.

The marriage of his brother, the Earl of Cornwall for some lady of his royal kindred.

"Item affaire redempcioun de la desturbaunce luy tendist argent taunt come il voloit mesmes resonablement demaunder."

"Item pur ce qil fust fait entendre ac Roi Dengleterre qe le Roi de Fraunce uoloit emprendre le seynt veage a la terre seinte et desiru mult avoir le Roi dengleterre en sa compaignie et par taunt il luy frect grace et favour le Roi Dengleterre issuit qe nul empechement de eit veage luy puyt estre susmys, tendist au dit Roi de Fraunce de passer afforciement oue luy en le dit veage issuit totes voies que devant soen aler il luy feit pleyn restitucioun desterres avantditez."

"Item puys luy tendist daler oue luy en le dit veage, issint qil luy fait deuaunt son aler restitutioun de la moite ou de certeigne partie dez ditez terrez."

"Item apres luy offrist plus largement qil irroit oue luy issint qe a soen retourne de la terre seinte luy fait la restitution auauntdite."

"Item puys pur estauncher la malice le Roi de Fraunce qi sa forsea de surmeitre lempechement de dit veage sur le Roi Dengleterre, il se profrist de prendre le veage oue luy issint qe a soen retourne il luy fait acomplissiment de droit."

"Mais le Roi de Fraunce qe se afforce par totez lez voiez qil pust a de faire de Roi Dengleterre et lez soens issint qil promisse retenir coe qil luy detient atort et pluys sur luy conquester ne voleyt nulle dez offrez auauntditz accepter, mes queraunt occasiouns se besturna en aide et meynteygnaunce des Escotz les enemys le Roi dengleterre afforcant de luy ensy tarier par la guerre Descoce qil ne serroit de poer aillurs ces droitz purseure."

"Item puys a la reuerence le Roi de Fraunce et la requeste de ces messages, le Roi Dengleterre graunta a lez Escotz suffrance de guerre et trues souz espoir de tretite de pes, pendaunt quele soeffraunce lez ditz Escotz tuerent le Coumte Datheles et autres et pristrent plusours grauntz de la foi le Roi Dengleterre, et ensegerent et pristrent Chausteux et altres lues de dit Roi et dez soens et iadumeyns a la requeste dez ditz messagez il tendist as ditz Escotz trewes quatre ou de synk anuz sur condicioun qils luy feisent restitucioun de choses purprises sur luy pendauntz lez primers treues issint qe le dit veage se poeit auoir prise en le mesne temps. A quele restitucioun le dit Roi de Fraunce ne se voleit assentir, mes meyntient lez ditz Escotz en lur mauoyte a tote soen poer et moet ouerte guerre sannz iuste cause au Roi Dengleterre et ad maunde ses galeyes et sa nauye, les queux il fist puruoier soutz feynt colour de dit veages sur la mer oue graunt noumbre dez gentz armez pur deseruyre la naüie et lez suggitz le Roi Dengleterre lez queux gentz ount pris de guerre et desrobbe plusurs niefs Dengleterre et tuez et priz lez gentz qui furent en ycelles et ont ariüez en Engleterre et es Ildes le Roi Dengleterre fesouns arsouns, homicides, roberies et autres horriblez solonc lur poer.'

* * * * *

"Item le Roi de Fraunce pur couerir sa mauoisete sa force de malement enfourmer le pape et autrez graunt de la Cristienete encountre le Roi Dengleterre compassaunt taunt come il poet nient sulement a dite Duchee mes totez lez terres le dit Roi Dengleterre conquester."

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Fol. 187. 1279. Stephen, bishop of London, to Bishop Ralph.

We have received the mandate of John, archbishop of Canterbury, containing the tenour following.

Urgentissimis domini nostri regis et regni Anglie negociis, nedum ipsius regni statum, sed eciam totius Anglicam ecclesie tranquillitatem tangentibus et quietem que pro defensione eorum et bono publico, ac periculis iam minantibus evitandis magnam et arduam acceleracionem requirunt, necessario ad presens cogimur prelatos et clerum nostre Cantuariensis provincie convocare, et ad hoc eciam faciendum breue regium recepimus

sub hiis verbis—Edwardus [&c. summoning the Council at Westminster on Friday next before the feast of St Michael, and the convocation of the province of Canterbury at the church of St. Paul, London, on the morrow of St Michael. Teste at Westminster, 18 Aug., anno 11. Printed in "Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament," p. 192.]

Nos igitur super hiis cum quibusdam de fratribus et aliis peritis tractatu habito diligenti, conuocacionem hujusmodi ex causis premissis fore decrevimus faciendam, &c. Datum apud Lamebeth ij. Kal. Septembris anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo tricesimo septimo et nostre translationis quarto.

Vice igitur et auctoritate dicti patris vobis injungimus et mandamus quatinus omnes decanos et priores ecclesiarum cathedralium ac capitula ecclesiarum huiusmodi archidiaconosque et abbates exemptos et non exemptos ac clerum vestre diocesis premuniatis seu faciatis premuniendo citari quod iidem decani priores, archidiaconi et abbates personaliter quodlibet capitularum duarum ecclesiarum cathedralium per unum clerusque predictus per duos procuratores sufficientes compareant coram dicto patre ipsiusve Commissariis in ecclesia sancti Pauli London in crastino Sancti Michaelis proximo nunc futuri in omnibus quod mandatum exigit prelibatum. Vobis insuper injungimus auctoritate predicta ut eundem patrem ipsiusve Commissarios dictis die et loco de facto vestre in hac parte reddatis modo debito certiores.

Datum apud Hadham .iij. Non. Septembris anno Domini supradicto.

1280. The King's summons for Bishop Ralph to attend the council at Westminster on Friday next before the feast of St. Michael.

Teste at Westminster, 18 Aug. anno 11.

[Printed in "Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament," p. 195].

1281. Writ to Bartholomew de Insula and his fellows, wardens of the lands on the sea coast in the county of Southampton. Fol. 188.

You caused people to be distrained there and in Berks and Wilts to find men-at-arms to keep the sea coast at Portsmouth, Southampton and elsewhere at their own costs. You are to

cause the common signals by fire on the hills to be kept by four, five or six men-at-arms. Do not compel the religious or other men to find others at Portsmouth or elsewhere or to contribute to their expenses beyond what is necessary to keep the said signals. If foreigners with ships invade those parts all shall be assembled for the repulse of the enemy.

Wodestoke, 4 Sept. in the 11th year of our reign.

1282. Bishop Ralph to the prior and chapter of Bath.

We have received the King's writ in these words.

You and the other prelates and the clergy of the province of Canterbury in the congregation on Wednesday next after the feast of St. Michael last past granted us a tenth of your ecclesiastical goods and benefices for three years, to be paid each year. We order that you assign some trustworthy men in your diocese to collect the money. Witness ourself at Westminster 25 Oct. in the 11th year of our reign. We commit to you our offices to collect.

Euerecrich, vi Id., Nov., A.D. 1337.

1283. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because William La Zousche "Mortymer," and Hugh Le Despenser, knights, Master Roger de Mortimer, archdeacon of Wells, Thomas de Castro Goderycy, parson of Merlawe, diocese of Lincoln, Master William de Kynemerton, parson of Flamstede, same diocese, and John de Hampslape, parson of Stanton, diocese of Ely, 27 Feb., in the 8th year of our reign, in our Chancery, acknowledged that they owed to Gwido de La Chouche, merchant of Luca, 1600*li.* and have not paid them. Cause 300*li.* to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the said archdeacon.

Witness ourself at Querendon, 16 Nov. in the 11th year of our reign.

Marginal entry.

19 Jan., Masters Robert de Netleton, official of the archdeacon within written, and Stephen Hulle, rector of Hanckechurche, diocese of Salisbury, at Banewelle, swore that they will preserve the lord indemnified that the goods suffice.

Return. We have caused goods to the value of 40*li.* to be sequestered, for which we could not find purchasers.

1284. Summons to attend the Parliament at Westminster on the morrow of the Purification of the B. Virgin Mary next.

Teste at Westminster, 20 Dec. anno 11.

[Printed in " Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament," p. 197.]

1285. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas Gilbert de Hysebare and Agnes his wife, at York, demanded against John de Stanecombe 2 acres of land in Langeford Bodeuille as the inheritance of the said Agnes, and of which the same John disseised William Colne, father of the said Agnes, whose heir she is, the same John objected that Agnes is a bastard. We command that you enquire the truth.

Witness I. de Stonore, 15 May, in the 11th year of our reign.

1286. Writ to Bishop Ralph to levy 300*li.* from the ecclesiastical goods of Roger de Mortymer, archdeacon of Wells, as on p. 338.

Teste at Westminster, 1 March in the 12th year of our reign.

Return. We could not levy the 40*li.* because the goods sequestered consist of corn for which we could not find purchasers.

1287. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause William de Columbrugge, your clerk, to come before our justices, at York, to answer to Richard Potruet, of Taunton, of a plea that he render to him 10 marks.

Witness J. de Chardelowe, at York, 4 Feb. in the 12th year of our reign.

Return. Not beneficed in our diocese nor has he ecclesiastical goods in the same.

1288. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because our sheriff of Somerset returned at our Exchequer that Robert Hereward, archdeacon of Taunton, has no lay fee in his bailiwick. Distrain him by his ecclesiastical benefices that he be before the barons of our Exchequer to answer John de Shordich, a baron of our Exchequer, for 100*li.*

Witness, &c., 24 Jan. in the 11th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused the clerk within written to be distrained to appear.

Fol. 109. 1289. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We prohibit that you admit a parson to the chapel of Kyngeston near Icuele concerning the advowson of which contention is moved between Robert Fitz Payn and Walterde Tryl.

Teste at Langelete, 10 Ap. in the 12th year of our reign.

Received 24th of the same month.

1290. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We prohibit that you admit a parson to the chapel to Kyngeston near Ieuele concerning the advowson of which contention is moved between John de Ros, William Loud, and Walter de Pavely, and Walter de Tryl.

Teste at Langele, 10 April in the 12th year of our reign.

1291. Breve pro consilio.

Council to be held at Northampton on the morrow of St. James the Apostle next.

Teste at Walton, 15 June, anno 12.

[Printed in "Dugdale's Summones to Parliament," p. 200].

1292. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Wishing for certain causes to be certified what time Master Peter de Horsleye, late parson of the church of Luccombe, died, and how long he was parson of the said church, and at whose presentation he was admitted and instituted in the same, and by what title. We order you that, having searched your register, you certify us.

Witness Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Northampton, 30 July in the 12th year of our reign,

Another copy of the same writ.

Return now not decipherable.

1293. Writ to levy 300*li.* from the goods of the archdeacon of Wells as on p. 339.

Witness Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Windsor, 18 Aug. in the 12th year of our reign.

Fol. 191. 1294. Ordinatio lecture in ecclesia Wellensi.

Ordinamus ut Cancellarius qui pro tempore in ecclesia nostra Wellen' fuerit, legere in theologia vel decretis per se vel alium suis sumptibus exhibendum, in scolis ad hoc antiquitus ordinatis, diebus legibilibus incipiendo et resumendo lectiones suas annis singulis in crastino sancti Kalixti, et sic continuando usque ad festum Translationis sancti Thome martiris cessante legitimo impedimento imperpetuum, teneatur.

Wells, 4 Dec., A.D. 1335.

1295. Augmentatio vicarie de Northovere.

The master of the hospital of St. John the Baptist, of Brug' and the brethren of the same place, holding the church ot Northovere were warned by us [Bishop Ralph] that they should assign a sufficient portion to the vicar, and they did not. Therefore we ordain that the vicar for the time shall have the mansion with the curtilage anciently assigned for the vicar. Also he shall have 9½ acres of arable land and 2 acres of meadow for one year, and another year 2 acres of meadow, except a fourth, as the vicars were wont to have. He shall take all oblations together with a tithe of the hay of the whole parish, and a tithe of beer, lambs, &c. The vicar shall provide bread and wine for the masses and incense when there shall be need.

Euerecrich, ii Non., Dec., A.D. 1337.

1296. Day before Non., Oct., A.D. 1338.

The lord dispensed with Robert Tripp, rector of Lymplesham, deacon, that he can follow in the study of letters for a year.

1297. Id., Oct., John de Tidelemyngton was instituted, at Woky, to the chapel of Kyngeston near Ieuele. The said John will preserve the lord indemnified.

1298. Bishop Ralph to Master John de Middelton, rector of Bloedon.

Walter de London, dean of Wells, pretending that he holds the parish church of Merk to his proper uses, leaves it destitute of a perpetual vicar; we order you that you admonish the said Sir Walter that within six months he present a fit vicar.

Everecrich, ij Kal., Oct., A.D. 1338.

Fol. 192 1299. The official of the court of Canterbury to the archdeacon of Taunton or his official.

The petition of Sir Walter de London, dean of Wells, exhibited to us contained that, although all and all manner of jurisdiction spiritual or ecclesiastical, primary and immediate, of all prebendal churches of the church of Wells and of all chapels depending on the same, the church of Barthon excepted, and especially of making inquisition concerning the vacancies of such churches and chapels, and other accustomed articles, now pertain to the dean of Wells alone by reason of his dignity and office introduced by ancient and laudable custom whether such inquisition be made by order of the diocesan of the place or otherwise, so that no archdeacon in the church of Wells or any other officer or minister could intrude upon such inquisitions; and, on the behalf of the said dean, fearing prejudice, it was appealed to the Apostolic see.

Nevertheless Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, ordered you, sir archdeacon, that you cause enquiry to be made concerning the vacancy of the prebendal chapel of Badialton pertaining to your prebend of Milverton. Wherefore [we inhibit] you and cite you.

1300. Brother Walter Wandri, of the order of Preachers, admitted at Blakeford to preach and absolve.

ij Non., Nov., A.D. 1338.

1301. Same day and place.

William Moyhun, instituted to the church of Badialton at the presentation of Ralph, son of William de Pouleshulle.

Archdeacon of Taunton to induct.

1302. Non., Nov., A.D. above.

Gilbert de Luffenham instituted to the church of Foxcote at the presentation of Thomas de Kyngeston.

1303. Bishop Ralph to the prior and chapter of Bath.

We have enjoined on brother John de Worthy, a monk of Muchelnye, order of St. Benedict, the punishment which follows. He shall be kept in a chamber under safe custody separated

from the convent. On Sundays and great days there shall be served to him as to the other monks of that monastery. On Tuesday and Friday bread, beer, vegetable, and one sort of fish; on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday bread, beer and vegetable only. On feast days and others he is bound to say one Psalm. We will that you have him kept in safe custody.

Blakeford, ij Kal., Nov., A.D. 1338.

1304. Thomas de Kyngeston, son and heir of Monsieur John de Kyngeston, chivaler, grants to Maud de Kyngestone, his wife, John de la Mare, and Nicholas de Kyngeston, to do and ordain all things which touch him in the counties of Somerset, Berks and Wilts, as in sale of land, &c., also to present to advowsons of churches and chapels as long as he shall be out of this land.

Wilton, Thursday next after the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist 12 Edw, iii.

1305. The dean of St. Mary de Arcubus. commissary general of the official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

You can do what is your right notwithstanding the inhibition dated at Nastok, Id., May., A.D, 1338, in the cause of appeal by reason of the chapel of Kyngeston near Ieuele, between John de la Mere, clerk, appellant, and John de Tidilmyngton.

London, iv Id., Oct,, A.D. above,

1306. Bishop Ralph to the deans of Axebruge, Cary, Mersshton, Iuelcestre, and Poulet. Fol. 193.

Whereas it was ordained that our archdeacon of Wells shall have one apparitor in each deanery of the said archdeaconry, on foot, and that no apparitor on horse henceforth shall be admitted by any subject of our said archdeaconry, except our general apparitor. We order you that you intimate the ordinance to all of the said archdeaconry,

Woky, iv Kal., Dec., A.D. 1338.

1307. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Wells.

Injunctiones capituli Wellensis.

Sane visitacionis officium, nuper auctoritate ordinaria in dicta ecclesia nostra Wellen' actualiter excercentes, quedam in dicta visitacione, dilectos filios capituli dicte ecclesie nostre concernencia inter cetera detecta inuenimus, quorum occasione aliqua ad honorem Dei et utilitatem dicte ecclesie nostre ordinanda duximus et dicto nostro capitulo injungenda. Cum enim quod fructus et proventus ecclesie parochialis de Burnham sub certa forma capitulo nostro Wellen' in proprios usus concesse in fabricam ecclesie nostre Wellensis minime convertebantur, secundum formam et exigenciam appropriacionis ejusdem, fuisset detectum, injunximus quod quicquid residuum fuerit de fructibus et proventibus ecclesie de Burnham predicte, deductis ipsius ecclesie expensis racionabilibus, et debitis supportatis oneribus, in utilitatem ipsius ecclesie Wellensis fabrice convertentur juxta dicte appropriacionis exigenciam et tenorem. Fuissetque insuper in eadem visitacione detectum, quod statuta nonnulla, tempore Johannis de Godeleghe, nuper dicte ecclesie Wellensis decani, jam defuncti, edita, non fuerunt hactenus observata . . . injunximus dicto capitulo quod statuta dicte ecclesie nostre, examinaret seu examinari faceret, et citra festum Pasche proximum jam futurum, nobis statuta hujusmodi exhiberet, seu faceret exhiberi, ut reprobanda reprobare et approbanda possemus prout justum fuerit approbare.

Item cum in ipsa visitacione fuisset detectum, quod canonici dicte ecclesie nostre, percipientes distribuciones cotidianas non interfuerunt communiter horis canonices, nec etiam vicarii et alii ecclesie predicte ministri, injunximus canonicis dicte ecclesie quod communius quam solebant interessent horis canonicis in futurum, et ordinavimus quod vicarii qui de cetero horis canonicis abfuerint gravius solito corripiantur . . . Subsequentur eciam detectum extitit quod libri et vestimenta dicte ecclesie nostre correctione et reparacione necessario indigebant, et potissime quod in libro qui ordinale vocatur "Magnus" inveniebatur defectus, occasione cujus minus decenter et convenienter in dicta ecclesia divina officia celebrantur. Preterea injunximus dicto capitulo, quod libri, vestimenta et defectus in ordinali predicto citra festum sancti Michaelis proximo futurum corrigi facerent et eciam reparari. Vobis igitur . . . mandamus quatenus

dicto capitulo nostro districtius injungatis et ipsum capitulum efficaciter inducatis, quod hiis nostris monicionibus et ordinacionibus pareant, et eisdem studeant in omnibus obedire, &c.

Woky, iv Kal., Dec., A.D. 1338.

1308. Litera archiepiscopi pro convocacione cleri.

Venerabile in Christo patri domino Radulpho Dei gratia Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo Ricardus ejusdem permissione London episcopo, salutem et sincere caritatis continuum incrementum. Literas recepimus hunc tenorem habentes.

Robertus permissione divina episcopus Cicestrensis reuerendi patris J. Dei gratia Cantuariensis archiepiscopi tocius Anglie primatis et apostolice sedis legati in remotis agentis vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, venerabili in Christo patri, domino Ricardo Dei gratia London episcopo, salutem et sinceram in Domino caritatem. Septimo die mensis Decembris ultimo preterito apud Aldyngbourne literas regias recepimus sub hac forma.

Edwardus Dei gratia rex Anglie, Dominus Hibernie, et Dux Aquitannie venerabili in Christo patri Johanni eadem gratia archiepiscopo Cantuariensi tocius Anglie primati vel eius vicario generali, ipso episcopo in remotis agente, salutem. Quia de avisamento consilii nostri ordinavimus quod, super urgentibus negociis, tam nos et expedicionem nostram ac jura nostra et corone nostre in partibus transmarinis, quam statum et defensionem regni nostri ac aliarum terrarum nostrarum contingentibus, quoddam Parliamentum apud Westmonasterium in Crastino sancti Hillarii proximo futuro teneatur, et ibidem vobiscum et cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus dicti regni tractatus et colloquium habeantur . . . Nolentes tamen dicta negocia nostra pro defectu premunicionum predictarum si forsan minus rite facte fuerint aliqualiter retardari. Vobis mandamus rogantes quatinus premunire faciatis decanos et capitula ecclesiarum cathedralium ac abbates et priores et . . . sint in dicto die ad Parliamentum predictum ad consenciendum hiis que tunc ibidem de communi consilio regni nostri ordinari contigerit, sicut predictum est. Et hoc nullatenus omittatis. Teste Edwardo Duce Cornubie et Comite Cestrie filio nostro carissimo, Custode Anglie apud Kenyngton. xv. die Novembris anno regni

nostri duodecimo. Per ipsum regem ac dictum Custodem ac consilium. Nos siquidem vicarius antedictus per hujusmodi literas regias excitati, Vobis auctoritate dicti domini nostri archiepiscopi injungimus et mandamus, &c. Vos eciam dictum mandatum nostrum quatenus vos et diocesim vestram London concernit juxta formam dicti brevis exequi per omnia faciatis. De die vero recepcionis presencium et quid feceritis in premissis dictum patrem, nos, aut alium ejus vicarium, dictis die et loco certificetis per literas vestras patentes harum seriem continentes.

Datum apud Aldyngbourn vij. Idus Decembris anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo. xxxviij.

Auctoritate igitur supradicta vobis injungimus et mandamus quatenus faciatis decanum et priorem ecclesiarum vestrarum cathedralium et capitula earundem, omnes abbates, priores, archidiaconos, et clerum vestre diocesis premuniri, quod dictis die et loco sint et compareant juxta exigenciam dicti brevis ad faciendum quod litere exigunt supradicte.

Datum London xij die mensis Decembris anno Domini supradicto.

Fol. 194. 1309. iiij Kal., March, A.D. above, at Woky. Letters dimissory for Mathew Beryng, deacon, to obtain the order of priest.

1310. v Kal., March, A.D. above. Letters dimissory for Thomas Parl, of Northcory, acolyte, to obtain all holy orders.

1311. Radulphus, &c., dilecto filio decano ecclesie nostre Wellensis, salutem gratiam et benedictionem. Nuper noster Comissarius Johannem de Acton, militem, ad satisfaciendum fabricis ecclesiarum nostrarum Bathoniensium et Wellensium certis terminis jam effluxis de decem marcis sterlingorum pro equalibus porcionibus in quibus eisdem certis ex causis efficaciter tenebatur, primo, secundo et tercio ac peremptorie legitime monuit sub pena excommunicationis culpa et mora ipsius precedentibus in eundem per dictum Commissarium auctoritate nostra canonice fulminate. Cumque idem Johannes de Hacton monicionibus hujusmodi hactenus minime paruisset et sic dictam excommunicationis sententiam incurrisset, vobis mandamus quatinus eundem Johannem dictam excommunicationis senten-

tiam incurrisse et ea ligatum esse in ecclesia nostra cathedrali et sancti Cuthberti Wellen' ac etiam in ecclesia parochiali de Ceddre, &c.

[*s. d.*]

1312. Brother Richard Peleuile, of the order of Preachers, admitted, at Woky, to hear confessions.

xii Kal., March, A.D. above, at Woky. Brother Martin Loueny, of the order of Friars Preachers, admitted to hear confessions.

1313. Inhibitio pro Acton.

The official of the court of Canterbury to the dean of Wells.

It is intimated to us on the behalf of John de Acton, knight, that although, he fearing prejudice, it was appealed to the court of Canterbury, nevertheless Masters John de Carleton and John de Middleton, commissaries of Bishop Ralph, cited him for judgment before them and laid on him the crimes of perjury and fornication with Margaret de Ralee. We inhibit, &c.

London, iij Kal. Feb., A.D. 1338.

1314. xv Kal., Feb., A.D. 1338, at Woky. Licence for John Penston to hear divine services in his oratory of Penston till the feast of St. Michael. Fol. 195.

1315. Bishop Ralph to the abbot and convent of Muchelnye.

Whereas we imposed upon John de Worthe, the punishment as set out on p. 342. We inhibit the abbot and monks from holding conversation with him.

Woky, xviij Kal., Feb., A.D. 1338.

1316. The official of the court of Canterbury to Master John de Carleton.

It has been intimated to us on the behalf of Sir Robert de Espeleghe, perpetual vicar of the prebendal church of Milverton, that although he is and his predecessors were subject by way of appeal or complaint to the dean of Wells as regards all ecclesiastical jurisdiction, and on the behalf of the said Robert, fearing prejudice, it was appealed to the court of Canterbury,

nevertheless you the commissary of Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, notwithstanding the said appeal, ordered the said Robert for judgment before you. Wherefore we inhibit you, &c.

London, vi Kal., Feb., A.D. 1338.

1317. Bishop Ralph appoints Masters Robert de Chikewelle and John de Carleton his proxies in the Parliament to be held at Westminster on the morrow of the Purification of the B. Mary.

Woky, &c.

1318. Bishop Ralph to Robert, bishop of Chichester, vicar general of John, archbishop of Canterbury.

We have received the letters of Richard bishop of London in these words—Richard, &c., to Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, greeting. We have received the letters of John, bishop of Chichester, vicar general of John, archbishop of Canterbury, thus—Because we propose to lay the hands of consecration on the venerable man Weston, prior of the cathedral church of Worcester, elected as bishop of the said church, on Palm Sunday next, we order you that you cause all bishops and suffragans of the province of Canterbury to be warned. Boxelle, xiv Kal., March, A.D. 1338. By virtue of which we warn you. London, xii Kal., March, A.D. above.

And because we cannot be personally present at the said day and place, we signify to your reverend fatherhood that we consent to the said consecration as much as in us lies.

Woky, vij Kal., March, A.D. above.

Fol. 196. 1319. iij Non., March, A.D. 1338. The lord granted to brother John de Estrete, of the order of Preachers, that he can hear confessions, within the place limited to him, for a month after Easter next.

1320. xiij Kal. April, A.D. above, at Woky. Letters dimissory for John de Bergh, acolyte, at the instance of W. Cammel, to all holy orders.

1321. The dean of the B. Mary de Arcubus to John de Carleton.

In the matter of appeal between Sir Robert de Espelegh, perpetual vicar of Milverton, and you, the appellant did not care to prosecute his appeal. We dismiss you.
London, Kal., March, A.D above.

1322. Bishop Ralph to Thomas de St. Martyn, of Campedene, priest.
We institute you to the chantry which Stephen de Bradene, chaplain, lately held in the church of Pokyngton, in our diocese, to which you are presented by Sir Reginald de Pavely.
Woky, March 25, A.D. 1339.
Archdeacon of Taunton to induct.

1323. vi Kal., April, A.D. 1339, at Woky. William, rector of Camelegh, priest, can absent himself till the feast of Michaelmas next.

1324. ij Kal., April, A.D. 1339, at Woky. The lord dispensed with Nicholas de Ilford, rector of Prisshton, acolyte, that he can study for a year from the time the rule of his church was committed to him.

1325. ij Non., April, A.D. next above, at Everecrich. William Tylneye, having the first tonsure, admitted to the church of Middelton, by the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston.

1326. vi Id., April, A.D. 1339.
Aylmer, rector of Kyngeston Seymor, can study for a year.

1327. Inhibition by the official of the court of Canterbury against Bishop Ralph in the matter of the excommunication of Sir John de Actone, knight; citation.
London, Non., April, A.D. 1339.

1328. vi Kal., May, in the year as above, at Woky. William Legh, priest, admitted and instituted to the church of Elleworth, by reason of exchange for a moiety of the church of Beltesford, diocese of Lincoln, at the presentation of brother Philip de Thame, prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England

Same day and place.

Walter de Draiton admitted to the moiety of the church of Beltesford, for the same reason, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Trentham.

1329. iv May, A.D. above.

Licence for Margery La Fitzpayn to hear divine services till Easter in her oratory of Chirchulle.

Churchille Court by Banwell.

1330. iij Id., May, A.D. above, at Wells. William de Bradewell, acolyte, admitted to the church of Chilton Muchegros by the presentation of John de Bures and Hawise his wife.

1331. ij Id., May, A.D. above.

Letters dimissory for the same William to obtain the order of subdeacon.

ol. 197. 1332. Concernentia electionem Prioris Tantonie, ut patet inferius.

Adam, bishop of Winchester, to Bishop Ralph.

The priory of the conventual church of Taunton, of your diocese and our patronage being lately vacant by the resignation of brother Ralph de Colmpstoke, the last prior, the subprior and convent elected brother Robert de Messyngham, their fellow canon as prior. To which election we have given assent, asking your fatherhood that you will deign to bestow on the said elect what pertains to you in this behalf.

Waltham, 24 April, A.D. 1339.

Brother Robert de Alresford, the subprior of Taunton, and the convent of the same place appoint brothers Thomas de Sandhull, canon and precentor of the said church, and Thomas called Le Cooke, canon of the same, and Master Robert de Tolonde, clerk, their proxies to appear before Bishop Ralph, or his commissary and to present brother Robert de Messyngham elected as prior.

Taunton, iv Kal., May, A.D. 1339.

Brother Robert de Alresford, the subprior, and the convent of Taunton to Bishop Ralph.

The conventual church aforesaid being vacant by the resignation of brother Ralph de Colmstoke, made 22 March, A.D. 1338, and admitted by you on the 24th day of the said month, licence being obtained from Adam, bishop of Winchester.

We being present in our chapter house 18 Ap., A.D. 1339, appointed Monday 19 April, next for the election of the future prior. All were present except brother John de Payton. Brother William de Sutton, canon of the said church, requested all those excommunicated, &c., to retire from the said chapter house. Whereupon we gave power to brothers Ralph de Colmpstoke, William de Reigny, Thomas called Le Cooke, William de Sutton, and Thomas de Pederton, canons of our church, that they should provide our church with a prior and they nominated brother Robert de Messyngham. Which things being done we chanting the "Te Deum laudamus" conveyed the said brother Robert to the greater altar of our church and caused the said election to be solemnly published before the clergy and people. Therefore we ask your reverend fatherhood to confirm the election.

A.D. 1339, 5 May.

Present. Master William de Colmpbrigge, Robert de Tolonde, clerks, and other witnesses.

And I, brother Robert de Alresforde, subprior, have consented and subscribed my hand to this decree. Fol. 199.

In the same manner and form brother Ralph de Colmpstoke subscribed.

And I, brother William de Bokelande, canon of the said church, was present and caused this decree to be subscribed by brother John Coker, because I could not write.

Likewise brother William Reigny, John de Brarton, John Saillard, John Coker, and Richard de Somerton (last three with their own hands).

Robert Peyteuyn and Thomas de Sandhall by J. Coker.

Brothers Thomas called Le Cooke, William de Sutton, John Godalmyng, Thomas de Monte Acuto, Thomas de Compton, Thomas de la More, William Walle, Thomas de Perton, Robert Coundy, Peter de Ilemynstre, Roger Samuel, and John Isaac, canons of the said church, subscribed with their own hands.

And I, Thomas de Hulle, public notary, was present.

Ralph de Colmpstoke, the prior, "senio jam confractus" asks Bishop Ralph to admit his resignation.

xi Kal., Ap., A.D. 1338.

Adam, bishop of Winchester, to the subprior and convent of the B. Peter, of Taunton, granting them as patron licence to elect a prior.

Farnham, 28 March, A.D. 1339.

Know all that the conventual church of St. Peter, of Taunton, being vacant, we and all the canons, brother John de Payton being alone absent, fixed 19 Ap., A.D. 1339, for the election of the future prior.

Dated 5 May in the year of our Lord abovesaid.

The subprior and convent of Taunton to brother William de Sutton, canon of the same church.

We give you full power to publicly warn all having a right to be present in the matter of the election.

Dated 5 May, A.D. abovesaid.

Fol. 200. I, William de Sutton, canon of the said church, 19 Ap., A.D. 1339, require all excommunicated, suspended and interdicted persons to retire from the chapter of the said church permitting others to elect freely.

Dated 5 May, A.D. abovesaid.

The subprior and canons appoint Ralph de Culmpstoke, William de Reigny, Thomas called Le Cooke, William de Sutton, and Thomas de Pederton as compromisers to provide a prior.

Dated 5 May, anno supradicto.

Potestas ad eligendum in communi.

Power by the compromisers for William de Sutton to elect brother Robert de Messyngham, of the order of St. Augustine, as prior.

5 May, anno Domini supradicto.

Fol. 201. 19 April, A.D. 1339.

Election of Robert de Messyngham. Dated 5 May, A.D. supradicto.

The subprior and convent to brother William de Sutton.

We give you full faculty to publish the election to clerks and laymen.

Dated as regards the mandate, at Taunton, 19 Ap., A.D. 1339, And, as regards the signing of these presents, 5 May, A.D. above.

The subprior and convent make brother Thomas, called Le Cook, their proxy and special messenger to present the election to the elect.

Same dates.

A.D. 1339, 19 April. The subprior and canons appoint Thomas, called Le Cooke, their proxy to present the election to brother Robert de Messyngham and to ask him to give his assent thereto. And subsequently the said proxy "going personally to a certain chapel which is called, and is the chapel of the infirmary of the same church, situate within the walls of the priory of Taunton and contiguous to the same infirmary," he presented the election to the elect and asked him to consent to the said election. Brother Robert, the elect, answered that he wished to deliberate. And afterwards, viz. 20 April in the said year, about the first hour, the said proxy being before the said elect in the said chapel, in the presence of Master William de Culmpbrugge, &c., canons of the said church; Sir William de Quenton, rector of Tolonde. Richard Sydwyne, Nicholas Liner, and others, asked the said elect to consent. But the elect answered that he wished yet more fully to deliberate. Shortly after the said elect consented. Fol. 202.

1333. iij Non., June, A.D. 1339, at Welyngton. The lord admitted and instituted John Dwyt to the church of Corymalet, at the presentation of the lord Edward, King of England, by reason of the custody of the land and heir of Hugh de Poynz deceased, being in the hand of the same King. Fol. 203.

1334. Id., June, A.D. above.

Richard Herynge instituted to the church of St. Michael Ivelcestre, at the presentation of Roger Torel.

1335. xij Kal., July, in the year above. Robert de Cristesham instituted to the vicarage of the church of Codecombe vacant by resignation, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bruyton.

1336. vi Kal., July, A.D. above.

Walter Brun instituted to the church of Corscombe at the presentation of Sir John de Palton, knight.

1337. Ordinacio Jocelini Episcopi.

Universis sancte ecclesie filiis ad quos presens carta peruenerit Jocelinus Dei gratia Bathonensis et Wellensis Episcopus salutem eternam in Domino. Quod valemus honoris et obsequii matri misericordie impendentes, statuimus ad laudem et gloriam ipsius genitricis Dei et perpetue Virginis Marie de consilio Capituli ut in ecclesia beati Andree in Wellia Missa de beate Virgine singulis diebus imperpetuum solempniter celebratur a tresdecim clericis ecclesie Wellensis vicariis e quibus tres sacerdotes annui erunt et singuli singulis septimanis pro successione celebrabunt.

Assumentque secum decem vicarios qui prefate misse celebracioni singulis septimanis per successionem assistant donec numerus vicariorum per ordinem suum semper compleatur. Prefati eciam vicarii tempore vicis sue vesperas et matutinas et horas reliquas de beata Virgine ante altare suum devote et honeste decantabunt. Et quum juxta vocem Apostoli equum est ut qui altario deserviunt de altario vivant; ordinavimus ut singuli tresdecim vicarii singulis diebus unum de provisione nostra habeant denarium, tres vero sacerdotes prescripti de assensu capituli preter dimidiam communam quam habere consueverunt, habebunt etiam reliquam dimidiam communam, ut libencius et devocius ministerio sancto insistant. Quicumque vero obsequio taliter ordinato non interfuerit, careat denario assignato nisi per egritudinem impediatur. Qui vero propter infirmitatem absens fuerit, alium loco suo substituere poterit. Ut autem hec nostra ordinacio perpetue firmitatis robore muniatur, presenti carte sigillum nostrum duximus apponendum.

Datum per manum nostram apud Welliam in Capite Jejunii, pontificatus nostri anno primo.

1338. Prima carta Jocelini Episcopi

Whereas, by the advice of our chapter of Wells, we ordained that 30 marks shall be paid every year for ever, at Wells, for the service of the B. Virgin Mary to be solemnly made in the same church before her altar every day by 13 clerks, vicars of the same church; We also grant that the residue of the said 30 marks and

the money not paid to the vicars through their absence, if it shall happen, shall be converted to the sustentation of a lamp and other uses.

Woky, by the hand of Master Walter de Maideneston, on the morrow of the holy Martyr, in the 34th year of our pontificate.

1339. Secunda carta Jocelini Episcopi.

We will and grant that every year 10 marks from the church of Chiw, after the decease of Master Hugh de Wylton, now parson, and 10 marks from the church of Welyngton, after the decease of Stephen de Tornato, who now holds the parsonage, shall be paid, at Wells, in the chapter, in the name of benefit.

Pontereysare, on the feast of the B. Andrew the Apostle in the 10th year of our pontificate.

1340. Tercia carta Jocelini Episcopi.

We will and grant that 10 marks from the church of Chyw, 10 marks from the church of Welyngton, and 10 marks from the church of Cerde shall be paid every year for ever, at Wells, in the greater church in the name of benefit, to the service of the B. Virgin Mary which we founded in our church of Wells.

Wells, Tuesday next before the feast of the Epiphany, in the 34th year of our pontificate.

1341. Confirmatio domini Roberti, Episcopi Wellensis.

We confirm the charter of the lord Jocelin, our predecessor. Word by word the tenour of the charter next above.

Wells, v Kal., April, in the 11th year of our pontificate.

1342. William, bishop of Wells, confirms the charter, ordinance and grant, as above.

Wells, April, in the 4th year of our pontificate.

1343. The chapter of Wells confirm the ordinance of bishop Jocelin, as above [*s. d.*].

1344. The chapter of Wells confirm the third charter of bishop Jocelin, (as above). Which is dated Wells, on the morrow of the circumcision of the Lord, in the 34th year of our pontificate.

1345. The prior and convent of Bath confirm the second charter of bishop Jocelin [*s. d.*].

Fol. 204. 1346. Ordinacio cantarie de Wollavyngton.

Henry called abbot of Clyue, and the convent of the same place to all, &c., greeting. Whereas Gilbert de Wollavyngton, who gave useful services for the perpetual amending and relief of our house and acceptable benefits, desired two secular priests celebrating divine services for ever as well for himself as for other living and deceased men to be constituted and ordained by us the abbot and convent in the chapel of the B. Virgin Mary in the cemetery of Wollavyngton, constructed by the said Gilbert, and to be sustained by us and our successors there. And likewise in increase of our convent two monks priests celebrating divine services for ever in our monastery of Clyue for the soul of the said Gilbert, his parents and benefactors and of all the faithful deceased. For us and our successors, at the instance of the prayer of the said Gilbert, we give and grant by these presents to Sirs Robert de Wyldemerse and John de Shapwyke, secular chaplains, and to their successors chaplains celebrating divine services in the same chapel for ever to celebrate, (to be appointed by the said Gilbert, his heirs, his assigns or their substitutes or by the diocesan of the place when the heirs, assigns, or their substitutes shall be negligent in the premises) 10 marks of annual rent for their sustentation, and one mark of annual rent to provide a lamp in the said chapel and for the repairing of the said chapel. Which said chaplains shall say "Placebo," &c., every day for ever in the same chapel for the souls of the said Gilbert and his parents, the Kings of England, bishops of Bath and Wells, all the benefactors of the said Gilbert and for the souls of all the faithful deceased, We also bind ourselves to pay to the monk, our porter, every year on the octaves of Easter 60*s.* to buy bread for 15 cowls to be delivered to 15 monks of our convent annually, and to pay our porter one mark for a pittance, and 10*s.* to be distributed in bread to the poor every year on the day of the Annunciation. For all these things we ordain the fruits of our church of Cammel. And to fulfil the said work we appoint the porter of our house, and to his office we assign the church of Cammel.

Hiis testibus. Dominus Johanne de Cogan, Roberto Martyn, Willelmo Tryvet, Roberto de Sancto Claro, Gilberto de Bere, militibus. Ricardo Pike, Ricardo de Auel, Thoma Trivet, Hugone de Maundeville, Hugone Le Waleys.

Datum in capitulo nostro quarto die Novembris, anno Domini millesimo cc° nonagesimo septimo.

1347. 3 July, A.D. 1339. Licence for George, rector of Staple, to let his church to farm to John de Kyngeston, chaplain, for a year and to absent himself for the same time.

"Et dabit elemosine ut extra viginti solidos soluendos in festo Omnium Sanctorum."

He shall apply two marks about the repairing of the houses there.

1348. Litera domini Archiepiscopi.

Scitis, frater carissime, qualiter pro negocio pacis quod nedum est commune omnium set privatum concernit comodum singulorum, pridem mare transivimus circa quod laboravimus ut potuimus ex affectu, licet nondum pacis emulo procurande, sit secutus effectus . . . . Nam licet habeat consvetudo laudabilis semper hactenus usitata quod in convocacionibus Cleri diocesis et provincie Cantuar' ad mandatum regium pro subsidiis domino nostro regi vel eius regno faciendis super hiis scribi debeat Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi vel eius vicario. Ita quod Fol. 205.
nulla fieret regi responsio presertim in arduis nisi de prelatorum et tocius Cleri dicte prouincie communicato consilio et assensu: iam tamen emanarunt, ut dicitur de Cancellaria domini nostri regis, ipso inscio et inconsulto mandata singulis Episcopis dicte provincie de convocando separatim clero suarum diocesium pro subsidiis hujusmodi faciendis, et (quod est intollerabile) capiuntur indifanite bona clericorum contra voluntatem eorum, virtute commissionum dicte Cancellarie factarum, ut asseritur de hujusmodi bonis sine prefinicione summe vel statuendo precio capiendis. Et nisi tam perniciosis obstetur principiis, timendum est ne paulatim transeant in consuetudinem, et presumpta semel, abusio ignominiosam infligat ecclesie servitutem. Fraternitatem vestram ex corde rogamus, hortamur, et oneramus quantum possumus coram Deo quatinus vos qui pontificalem suscepistis

honorem ad dandam salutis scienciam plebi Christi, et ad faciendas increpaciones in populis, consideretis attente jacturam ecclesie et temporum jam currencium qualitatem, pensantes, quod est discrimen gravissimum ut quis presit, si non prosit quod cathedram doctoris ascendat et sedeat ibi mutus, et opponatis vos murum pro domo domini corripientes constanter hujusmodi presumptores et arguetis pro mansuetis terre. Non enim potest esse clarior titulus in prelato, quam si tueatur viriliter statum ecclesiastice libertatis, et si justicie sit defensor. Nec retrahatis vos a Parliamentis et consiliis publicis, set venientes ad ea more boni pastoris, annuncietis populo scelera sua, loquentes constanter et consulentes pro re publica. . . . Et ne connuentibus oculis tantam videamur insolenciam preterire, quam suademus aliis puniendam, contra violatores hujusmodi ecclesiastice libertatis processus pungentes fieri fecimus, et si fuissemus in Anglia pungenciores fieri fecissemus, quos vobis et vestrum cuilibet mittimus exequendos firmiter injungentes quatinus juxta formam literarum nostrarum vobis inde directarum ipsos exequi sic curetis ut vestram debeamus obediencie puritatem merito commendare. . . . Valeat et vigeat salus vestra tempora per longeua.

Scriptum apud Andewerpiam xxiiij die Marcii.

### *Mandatum Archiepiscopi.*

1349. Richard, bishop of London, to Bishop Ralph.

We have received a mandate containing this tenour. John, by divine providence Archbishop of Canterbury to Richard, bishop of London, greeting. (Here follows an order to excommunicate all those who shall presume to take away corn or other goods pertaining to ecclesiastical persons from their houses, granges, and other places).

Dated at Antwerp, iij Nones, May, A.D. 1339.

By authority of which we enjoin you that within the space of two months you proclaim those you find guilty to be excommunicated.

London, 14 June, A.D. above, and the first of our consecration.

Fol. 206. 1350. vij Id., July, A.D. 1339, at Wells. The lord conferred on

Master John de Carleton, his clerk, a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Haselbere, which John de Bruyton held.

Dean of Wells to induct.

1351. iij Kal., Aug., A.D. next above.

John Cory instituted to the chapel of Kyngeston, at the presentation of Robert Fitz Pain.

1352. v Id., Aug., A.D. above.

John de Erneshulle, instituted at Evercrich, to the church of Gosebradene, at the presentation of Roger Le Warre.

1353. Bishop Ralph to Master John de Ildeslegh, canon of Chichester.

We commit to you to confer the canonry of Wells and prebend of Ilton, and freely dispose thereof.

Evercrich, 7 Aug., A.D. 1339.

1354. Id., Aug., A.D. above, at Everecrich.

Henry de Allynton, priest, late vicar of Brode Wyndesore, diocese of Salisbury, instituted to the church of Aisshebrutel, by reason of exchange for the said vicarage. At the presentation of William de Seyntcler.

Same day, place, and year. The lord conferred the vicarage of Brodewyndesor, by authority of the bishop of Salisbury, on Henry Seyntcler, priest, vacant by the exchange above, and instituted the said Henry.

1355. xvij Kal., Sept., A.D. above.

Henry Blount, priest, instituted, at Everecrich, to the perpetual chantry of Swelle, at the presentation of Sir Henry de L'ortye, knight.

1356. xvi Kal., Sept., A.D. above.

The lord admitted Henry de Forde, priest, to the vicarage of Weston, near Bath, vacant by exchange with Robert de Aisshelegh for the church of St. Michael outside the north gate of the city of Bath, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Bath. At Everecrich.

1357. xiv Kal., Sept. The lord admitted Roger de Mekele, priest, to the church of Kyngton, at the presentation of Sir Robert Le Fitzpayn, by reason of exchange with John Danesy for the vicarage of Kyngeston, near Taunton. And the same day the lord admitted the said John to the vicarage aforesaid.

1358. xiv Kal., Sept. The lord admitted, at Everecrich, Sir John de Offele to the church of Wayforde at the presentation of John Aleyn.

1359. xii Kal. Sept. The lord, at Everecrich, granted licence for William de Tylneye, rector of Milton, to follow in the service of the abbot of Glaston, at the pleasure of the bishop.

1360. The official of the Court of Canterbury to the official of the archdeacon of Wells and Master John de Middleton, alleging himself to be the special commissary of the bishop.

On behalf of William de Spekyngton, Walter de Speckyngton, Henry Ooge, Henry Lyrybeke, Thomas Le Hayward, William Pope, Roger Rycy, John Chapman, Walter Proude, and John Iweyn it has been intimated to us that you cited them for judgment before you, and at the instance of William de Cammel, rector of Jeuelton, you did not take care to hear the said party and to do justice. We inhibit you pending appeal, &c.

Bernes, vi Id., Aug., A.D. 1339.

Fol. 207. 1361. viij Kal., Oct., A.D. above.

Licence for Reginald de Buggewelle, rector of Widecombe, subdeacon, to study for a year.

1362. Same day and place.

The lord granted letters dimissory for William de Toriton, acolyte, to obtain all holy orders.

1363. Same day and place.

Licence for Richard Coker to have divine services celebrated in his oratory of Westboure in the parish of Brugg', for a year.

1364. vi Non., Oct., A.D. 1339.

The bishop, at Everecrich, granted to Master William de Ludeford, rector of Culmyngton, that he can let his church to farm for three years, and stay in the schools for a year.

1365. Same day and place.
The lord dispensed with Master Robert Tripp, rector of Lymplesham, deacon, to study for a year.

1366. Same day and place.
The lord dispensed with Adam, rector of Strete, priest, to study for a year.

1367. Same day and place.
The lord conferred the church of St. Michael, of Iuelcester, on John Bysouth, son of Reginald the priest.

1368. Bishop Ralph to John, bishop of Exeter.
We grant you faculty to consecrate a certain altar erected within the manor of the lord William de Monte Acuto, earl of Salisbury, and the lady Katherine, his consort, at Dunzete.
Everecrich, v Non., Oct., A.D. 1339.

1369. v Non., Oct., A.D. above. Letters dimissory for William de Nony to obtain the first tonsure and all minor orders.

1370. Kal., Oct., A.D. above at Everecrich. The lord granted licence to Richard de Clyvedon to have divine services celebrated in the chapel of Potyngthrop, in the parish of Banewelle, for a year.

1371. iij Non., Nov., A.D. 1339, at Dogmeresfeld. Geoffrey de Wrokeshale, priest, instituted to the church of Corymalet, at the presentation of the King by reason of the custody of the land and heir, Hugh de Poyntz.

1372. Same day and place.
John Firman instituted to the church of Bekyngton, at the presentation of the King by reason of the custody of the land and heir of John de Erlegh.

1373. Non., Nov., A.D. above.

John Danesy, of Fenhampton, admitted to the vicarage of Estpennard by reason of exchange for his vicarage of Kyngeston near Taunton, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston.

Same day and place.

Fol. 208. Richard Payn, chaplain, admitted to the vicarage of the parish church of Kyngeston near Taunton by exchange for his vicarage of Estpennard, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton.

1374. viij Id., Dec., A.D. above, at Dogmeresfeld. Thomas Louekyn, of Malmesbury, priest, admitted to the vicarage of the church of Stoklond, vacant by the resignation of Walter de Troubrigge, last vicar of the same, at the presentation of the master and brethren of the house of St. Mark, of Bileswyke in Bristol.

1375. vij Id., Dec., place and year above. William de Tylneye, rector of Middleton, obtained letters dimissory for the order of subdeacon.

1376. The dean of the church of the B. Mary de Arcubus, commissary general of the official of the Court of Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas we, lawfully proceeding in the matter of appeal between John de Martineseye, of the parish of Mere, of your diocese, appellant, of the one part, and Alice, called Le Hertes, of Woky, of the other part, because the appellant did not prove his appeal, have dismissed the party appealed from the inquiry of the said court.

London, vi Kal., Dec., A.D. above.

1377. Adam, bishop of Winchester, to Bishop Ralph.

Die. xvij. mensis Decembris mandatum recepimus infrascriptum.—Johannes permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, tocius Anglie primas, et apostolice sedis legatus venerabili fratri nostro domino Ade Dei gratia Wyntoniensi episcopo salutem et fraternam in domino caritatem. Patencia guerrarum

dissidia et turbacionis imminere discrimina adversus regnum Anglie undique suscitata, que jam in publicam omnium notionem venerunt, pro honore et saluacione status domini nostri regis, regni sui, ac tocius ecclesie Anglicane ut ab iminentibus periculis tueantur, evidenti necessitate multipliciter nos coartant prelatos et clerum nostre Cantuariensis provincie convocare, quatinus deliberacione provida habita cum eisdem inimicorum jaculis ac insidiis in perniciem regni et ecclesie predictorum notorie machinatus celerius occurratur. Ad quod eciam faciendum idem dominus noster rex nos specialiter excitans, suas nobis direxit literas huius forme:—

Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie venerabili in Christo patri J. Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi tocius Anglie primati, salutem. Cum quedam ardua et urgencia nos et statum regni nostri, ac expedicionem negociorum nostrorum concernencia que in Parliamento nostro apud Westmonasterium in quindena sancti Michaelis proximo preterita convocato agitata et tractata fuerant ob aliquas certas causas inibi expositas iuxta effectum optatum non extiterint terminata per quod de assensu prelatorum, comitum, et procerum in dicto Parliamento existencium ac eciam ad requisicionem communitatis regni nostri quoddam aliud Parliamentum apud Westmonasterim in Octabis sancti Hillarii proximo futuris teneri ordinavimus ad tractandum vobiscum et ceteris prelatis ac proceribus predictis, tam super predictis negociis quam aliis que hactenus contigerunt. Et quia dicta negotia tam honorem ac tuitionem et salvationem sancte ecclesie Anglicane, quam nostrum etiam et regni statum ut perfertur et commodum tangere dinoscuntur, et nos in hiis vestro ceterorumque prelatorum et cleri ejusdem regni consilio et auxilio indigemus. Nos de vestre sinceritatis et benevolencie puritate firmam fiduciam obtinentes, quod tam pro defendendis et recuperandis corone nostre regie Juribus quam pro dicte sancte ecclesie salvacione et tuicione nobis vigilanter velitis assistere et quantum ad vos pertinet efficaciter in oportunitatibus suffragari. Vobis mandamus rogantes &c. vestre Cantuariensis provincie, apud London, die jovis proximo post festum conuersionis sancti Pauli proximo futurum convocare faciatis. Ita quod tam vos quam dicti episcopi, decani, &c., ad tractandum consulendum, et ordinandum super negociis predictis que vobis

et illis ibidem ex parte nostra plenius exponentur, vestrumque et suum consilium et auxilium impendendum, necnon ad consenciendum hiis que tunc pro communi defensione et utilitate ecclesie et regni utrorumque, fauente Domino, contigerit ordinari. Teste, E. Duce Cornubie et Comite Cestrie, filio nostro carissimo, custode Anglie apud Langele, xxviij. die Nouembris anno regni nostri xiij

Cum igitur sede London vacante prout per mortem bone memorie domini Ricardi de Bynteworth ultimi London episcopi vacare noscitur in presenti infrascriptorum execucio ad vos de consuetudine pertineat et debeat pertinere. Vobis committimus et mandamus firmiter injungentes quatinus sine more diffugio omnes et singulos confratres et coepiscopos nostre Cantuariensis ecclesie suffraganeos vel absencium episcoporum hujusmodi si qui fuerint vicarios generales citetis peremptorie, et per eos decanos, priores ecclesiarum cathedralium ac singula capitula earundem, archidiaconosque, abbates et priores, alios sub se conuentum habentes, ac ecclesiarum prelatos, exemptos, et non exemptos, et clerum cujuslibet diocesis nostre provincie antedicte citari peremptorie faciatis, quod iidem episcopi ac vicarii generales, decani et priores ecclesiarum hujusmodi cathedralium archidiaconosque, abbates et priores, ac ecclesiarum prelati, exempti et non exempti, personaliter et quodlibet capitulorum ecclesiarum cathedralium predictarum per unum, clerusque cujuslibet diocesis nostri Cantuariensis provincie antedicte per duos sufficientes procuratores compareant coram nobis aut nostris commissariis vel commissario in hac parte, in ecclesia sancti Pauli, London, dicto die Jovis proximo post festum Conversionis sancti Pauli, ad tractandum cum continuacione et prorogacione dierum tunc sequencium, super arduis et urgentibus negociis totum regnum Anglie et ecclesiam concernentibus Anglicanam ibidem seriosius exponendum, et consulendum etiam super illis ac consenciendum hiis que ex deliberacione communi ad honorem Dei et ecclesie sue sancte utilitatemque tocius rei publice ibidem erunt concorditer ordinatis. Vos etiam dictum nostrum mandatum, quatenus vos et diocesim vestram Wyntonie concernit, exequi per omnia faciatis. De die vero recepcionis presencium, et quid feceritis in premissis, nos aut nostros commissarios seu commissarium dictis die et loco distincte et

aperte certificare curetis per literas vestras patentes, harum seriem et citatorum nomina vestre diocesis Wyntonie in cedula separata literis certificatoriis vestris annexa, plenarie continentes. Et ceteris coepiscopis et confratribus nostris ac vicariis hujusmodi similiter injungatis ut nos aut nostros commissarios seu commissarium in hac parte prefatis die et loco singuli singillatim modo debito de facto suo certificent in premissis per literas eorum patentes harum seriem et citatorum nomina diocesium eorundem in sedula consimili continentes.

Datum apud Otteford. xviij Kal., Januarii, anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo, tricesimo nono, et nostre trans: sexto.

Cujus auctoritate mandati vos peremptorie citamus, et per vos alios vestre diocesis in dicto mandato nominatos peremptorie citari mandamus, quod compareatis et compareant coram dicto patre vel ipsius commissariis seu commissario in hac parte, die et loco prefixis in dicto mandato juxta ipsius exigenciam et tenorem. Vobis nihilominus firmiter injungentes, quatinus ipsum mandatum in ceteris suis articulis, quatenus vos et vestram concernit diocesim per omnia similiter exequi faciatis.

Datum apud Farnham, xix die mensis Decembris anno Domini supradicto.

1378. Instrumentum publicum concernens Spekyngton. Fol. 209.

A.D. 1339, Dec. 23. Walter de Spekyngton, son of Thomas de Spekyngton, of the diocese of Bath and Wells, before the bishop, within the manor of Dogmeresfeld, diocese of Winchester, then in the presence of me the public notary and the witnesses within written, submitted himself to the ordinance, will, and grace of the said bishop, in that he removed corn from the ground of the sanctuary of the church of Ieuelton against the will of William de Cammel, rector of the same church. Viz., Walter shall undergo the condemnation of 20*li.* to be paid to the rector for his damages and expenses. For his offences to God and holy church, with bare head and feet "tunica, camisia et femoralibus dumtaxat indutus" he shall visit the parish church of Ievelton, also the cathedral churches of Wells, Bath, and Canterbury, and also the church of La Radeclyue, at Bristol, and the parish churches of Taunton and Somerton "more penitenciali." on days to be appointed by the bishop. "And that he shall

take a pilgrimage in the parts beyond the seas to St. James and divers other holy places and that he shall continue the pilgrimage for three years, so that during the said three years he shall not return into England" Presentibus, domino Nicholao de Pontesbury, rectore ecclesie de Cheleworthe, et Waltero de Bere, viris literatis, testibus.

And I, Stephen Trippe, clerk, public notary, was present.

1379. Walter de Spekyngton prayed us that the sentence passed on him be removed.

The sentence is recited in full.

When the condemnation aforesaid has been fulfilled we will that the benefit of absolution be bestowed on him.

Dogmeresfeld, 23 Dec.

By the bishop of Bath, &c.

1380. Same day and place. The lord dispensed with George de Umframville, rector of Middelchynnok, subdeacon, that he can study for a year.

Fol. 209. 1381. Last day of Jan., A.D. 1330, at London. The lord granted grace to Roger Turtle, citizen of Bristol, that he can solemnize matrimony between himself and Juliana, daughter of Margery La Irissh, in the chapel of Baieworth in the parish of Were, the banns of marriage, nevertheless, first being published as the custom is.

1382. Acts before us, John de Carleton, official of the bishop, 17 Aug., A.D. 1339, in the parish church of Everecrich. Thomas de Spekyngton, the elder, of the parish of Ieuelton, appearing personally before us, and it being objected to him that he did certain things prejudicial and to the damage of Sir William Cammel, rector of the same place.

The same Thomas took an oath that he would never hereafter do any harm or be in any complaint against him.

Present. Robert atte Halle and Walter de Bere, clerks.

1383. Annus Domini millesimus ccc^mo. quadragesimus.

vi Non., March, A.D. 1339, at Wells. John de Weston, chaplain, admitted to the church of Wayford, vacant by the resignation of John de Offeleigh, by reason of exchange for the church of Estlambroke, and at the presentation of John Aleyn.

Same day and place.

John de Offeleigh admitted to the church of Estlambroke, at the presentation of Isabella Pecche, relict of Hugh Le Gornay, deceased.

1384. iii Kal., Ap., A.D. 1340.

John de Trente, chaplain, admitted to the church of Penne Dommere, at Kyngesburye, by reason of exchange for the chantry of the B. Mary, of Lymyngton, made with William Le Mason, at the presentation of Richard Dommere.

Same day and place.

The said William Le Mason, priest, admitted to the said chantry of Lymyngton at the presentation of Henry Pouer.

1385. Pridie Kal., Ap., A.D. next above, at Kyngesbury. The lord admitted William Belle, priest, to the vicarage of the church of Wynsham, vacant by the resignation of Robert Le Veele, by reason of exchange for the church of Thorne Cofyn, at the presentation of Thomas de Cundenham, proxy of Sir Alan de Conesburgh the patron.

Same day and place.

The lord admitted Robert Le Veele, priest, to the church of Thorne Cofyn, vacant by the resignation of William Belle, by reason of exchange for the vicarage of Wynsham, at the presentation of the lord Edmund de Clyvedon, patron for this time.

1386. John, archbishop of Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph to cite Sir Stephen de Columbers, knight, son and executor of the lady Alice de Columbers of Penshurst, deceased, to appear before him on the second judicial day after Sunday to show the will and inventory of all the goods of the said deceased and to show the account of the administration. Sir Philip de Columbers, knight, son and executor of the said deceased is mentioned.

Mandatum *Archiepiscopi* receptum apud Kyngesbury secundo die Aprilis.

Chercham, iij Id., March, A.D. 1339.

Fol. 210. 1387. iv Kal., May, A.D. 1340, at Wyuelescombe. The lord conferred the canonry of Wells and prebend of Combe. x., vacant by the resignation of Sir Arnald de Malo Ingenio, by reason of exchange for the canonry and prebend of La Cope in the free chapel of the King, of St. Martin the Great, London, on Geoffrey de Chelcheheth.

Same day and place.

The lord conferred the canonry and prebend of La Cope on Sir Arnald de Malo Ingenio, by virtue of a commission of Sir John de Wodeforde, dean of the free chapel of St. Martin the Great, London.

1388. ii. Id., May, A.D. 1340.

The lord instituted Philip de Burcestre, priest, to the vicarage of Chyuton, at the presentation of the King.

1389. xij Kal., June as above.

The lord conferred a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Holecombe in the same diocese of Exeter, vacant by the resignation of Master Adam Murymouth, on Thomas Murymouth, holding the first tonsure.

1390. vii Kal., June, A.D. above, at Wyvelescombe. The lord conferred a canonry of Wells and the prebend of Combe, xv, vacant by the resignation of William de Weston, by reason of exchange for the chapel of Claverham, on Nicholas de Ilford, subdeacon.

Same day and place.

The lord instituted William de Weston to the chapel of Claverham, vacant by the resignation of Nicholas de Iforde (as above), at the presentation of James atte Boxe, patron for that time.

1391. Nicholas de la Beche, John de Molyms, John de Mere, and William de Langele, parson of the church of Ryngwode, general attornies of the lord William de Monte Acuto, earl of Salisbury, and marshal of England, "in partibus remotis agentis," to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas King Edward by his charter gave and granted for

him and his heirs to our said lord the earl the advowson of the priory of Montacute. To have and to hold to him and to his heirs for ever. And granted further that the said earl and his heirs should have the custody of the priory aforesaid, and of the lands &c., pertaining to the same, when it shall happen to be vacant. We present brother John de Henton, monk, to the said priory now vacant by the death of Guichard Jou, asking that you will deign to admit him.

London, 28 Ap., A.D. 1340.

1392. Bishop Ralph to the abbot of Glaston, the prior of Bath, and the chancellor of Wells, appointing them to hear, examine and end the matter of the presentation of John de Henton to the priory of Montacute, and to certify him of what they do.

Wyvelescombe, vij Kal., June, A.D 1340.

1393. xv Kal., July, A.D. above at Wyvelescombe. The lord admitted John Ugge, priest, to the vicarage of Doultynnge, vacant by the resignation of Master Henry de Bristoll, the last vicar, by reason of exchange for the church of Suthcadebury, at the presentation of the abbot and convent of Glaston.

Same day and place.

The lord admitted Master Henry de Bristol to the church of Suthcadebury (as above) at the presentation of Henry de Brokworth.

1394. 13 July anno ut supra, at Welyngton. Licence for George, rector of Staple, to let his church and farm to John de Kyngeston, chaplain, from Michaelmas next till Michaelmas following.

1395. xiij Kal., Aug., anno ut supra. Henry de Porta priest, admitted at Welyngton, to the church of Kitenare, at the presentation of John de Bratton.

1396. Same day and place.

John de Pouldon, priest, admitted to the church of Treberge, at the presentation of Ralph Le Fisours, son of William Le Fisours, of Wachet.

Fol. 211. 1397. Brother William de Badymynton, subprior, and the chapter or convent of Bath to Bishop Ralph, "our patron."

Your church of Bath is destitute of a prior by the cession of brother Thomas Crist, the late prior. We send our brother, Simon Schawe, to ask and receive licence from you to elect a prior. In our chapter, at Bath, Saturday next before the Feast of the Assumption of the B. Virgin Mary A.D. 1340.

1398. Decretum electionis priorisse de Barwe.

Milburga Burneford, the subprioress of Barwe, and the convent, to Bishop Ralph.

Our monastery being vacant by the death of Basilia de Sutton, the last prioress, who died 17 June A.D. 1340, and licence being obtained from the lord Thomas Berkeley, the patron, at length 9 Aug., A.D. abovesaid, we in our chapterhouse appointed the 12th day of the same month for the election of a prioress.

Whereupon we caused the lady Agnes Sauntemareys, our nun, to give warning that if any were suspended, excommunicated or interdicted that they should retire from the chapter, and permit the others to elect freely. We gave power to the ladies Agnes de Santemareys and Juliana de Groundy to publish the votes. Juliana de Groundy elected. We ask your reverend fatherhood to confirm the election.

Barwe, 12 Aug., A.D. above.

To Bishop Ralph from his official.

We have received your mandate (as to proclamation of the election of Juliana Grondy as prioress of Barwe) dated at Evercrich, Id., Aug., A.D. 1340.

Which mandate I have executed.

Prisshton, xiij Kal., Sept., A.D. above.

Bishop Ralph to Master John de Carleton, canon of Wells.

We commit to you our offices in the matter of the election of Juliana de Grondy as prioress of Barwe with power to confirm or invalidate the same.

Midsomeresnorton, xiij Kal., Sept., A.D. 1340.

Confirmation of the election by John de Carleton.

Fol. 212 1399. Pridie Kal., Aug., A.D. 1340. William de Monketon acolyte, admitted at Iatton, to the church of Astyngton, at the presentation of Simon de Furneaux, knight.

1400. Ordinacio Thome Crist late prior of Bath.

Bishop Ralph to all.

Whereas brother Thomas Crist, late prior of Bath, has resigned, we have thought fit to ordain that the same brother Thomas shall have a suitable habitation for himself, one monk chaplain: one esquire and one groom serving him. He shall also take in eating, &c., as much as two "monachi claustrales". The monk helping him shall take as much as a brother and monk take. The esquire and groom shall take as much of the same standing as those serving the prior. Brother Thomas shall have, moreover, four waggon loads of wood every year for fuel. He shall also have the manor of Northstoke, with all its commodities, the advowson of the church of Northstoke, the sale of lands, wards and marriages, perquisites of courts, escheats and pastures, except the feeding of sheep if the prior and chapter wish to have sheep there. We will, that the amercements of corn and hay in the said manor pertain to the said Thomas. Of wood or grove he shall take as much there only as shall be necessary for fuel and repair of houses. And there shall remain in the possession of the said Thomas 8 oxen for one plough, so that he shall leave so many and of the same value when he shall decease. He shall keep up the buildings at his own costs.

Evercrich, vi Kal., Sept., A.D. 1340.

1401. 2 Sept., A.D. above.

John de Fakenham, priest, and rector of Boyton, diocese of Salisbury, was admitted at Wells, to the chapel of Radene, diocese of Bath and Wells, united to the said church of Boyton, to which he was presented by the King.

1402. xiij Sept., A.D. above, at Everecrich. Edith de Branketres, called Mulewardes, appeared before us J. de Middelton, "objectoque sibi crimine adulterii cum domino Ioceo de Baiouse, milite, fatebatur quod peperit de eodem per quindenam ante Pascham. Et ipsa abjurauit peccatum et loca suspecta et quod nec comedet neque bibet nec dormiet sub illo tecto quo ipsum esse contigerit."

Punishment. On a certain Sunday she shall go before the procession to the church of Wynfred with bare head and feet

bearing a taper, which she shall offer to the priest celebrating the mass. She shall perform this for three years.

1403. Querela pro Archidiacono Tantonie recepta die sante Fidis.

The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

We have received the complaint of Master Robert Hereward, archdeacon of Taunton and prebendary of Milverton, containing that Master John de Middelton, rector of Bloedon, your commissary general, by authority which he asserted he had from you, suspended the said Master Robert. We order you to do justice to the said Robert within the space of 15 days, otherwise we cite you.

Nastoke, xvi Kal., Sept., A.D. 1340.

Fol. 213. 1404. Appellacio archidiaconi Tantonie.

Although the primary and immediate cognizance, correction and punishment of the subjects of their archdeaconry, and also the placing and appointing of apparitors to make citations in the archdeaconry, belongs and pertains to Master Robert Hereward, archdeacon of Taunton, and pertained to his predecessors from a time whereof the memory of man runneth not; notwithstanding an appeal, the bishop appointed his officials or commissaries in the said archdeaconry, also his apparitors and couriers, &c. Wherefore I, the proctor of the said Robert, appeal to the Apostolic see.

1405. Id., Oct., A.D. 1340, at Everecrich. The lord dispensed with William de Ludeford, rector of Culmyngton, subdeacon, that he can study in England for a year.

1406. Bishop Ralph to John de Torrebrian, priest, of the diocese of Exeter.

We confer on you the vicarage of the parish church of Bruggewater at the presentation of the master and brethren of Brugg[water], of the order of St. John the Baptist, the rents and issues of which do not exceed the annual sum of 20 marks, according to the taxation of the tenth. Which you accepted within a month from the time of the vacancy of the same by

virtue of a grace made to you from the Apostolic see in the common form.

Everecrich, xiij Kal., Nov., A.D. 1340.

1407. iij Kal., Nov., A.D. above.

Licence for John de Langebergh, rector of Melles, priest, to reside in the cathedral church of Salisbury till Michaelmas.

1408. viij Nov., A.D. above.

The lord granted licence to Sir David, rector of Langrigge, that he can absent himself from his said church till Michaelmas. He owes half a mark.

1409. x Kal., Nov., A.D. 1340, at Everecrich. Dominus contulit preposituram ecclesie sue Wellensis vacantem per resignationem Majistri Alani de Conesborgh, prepositi ejusdem, factam ex causa permutacionis cum canonicatu ecclesie Lichfield' et prebende de Ruyton in eadem, et cum ecclesia de Sutton Courtenay, Sarum diocesis, domino Johanni de Sancto Paulo, presbitero.

1410. xvij Kal., Dec., A.D. 1330.

The lord admitted John Tryvet, priest, to the chantry within the manor-house of la Forde at the presentation of Adam de la Forde, knight.

1411. xiij Kal., Dec., Ralph Mynty admitted to the vicarage of Everecriz, at the presentation of the prior and brethren of the Hospital of St. John, of Wells. At Wryngton.

1412. xi Kal., Dec. Licence of non-residence for a year granted to Master Henry, rector of Spaxton, so that he may follow in the service of the prior of Merton. 20 shillings paid to the lord.

1413. Breve regis de consilio. Fol. 214.

Edwardus Dei gratia rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie, venerabili in Christo patri, R. eadem gratia episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi, salutem. Quia super quibusdam urgentissimis negociis &c. apud Westmonasterium die Jouis proximo post festum Omnium Sanctorum proximo futurum teneri, et tunc

tractari specialiter de eisdem. Vobis mandamus, &c., ne, quod absit, per vestri absenciam expedicio negotiorum nostrorum eorundem quomodolibet retardetur, Teste Edwardo, Duce Cornubie et Comite Cestrie, filio nostro carissimo, Custode Anglie, apud Kenyngton, xxviij die Octobris anno regni nostriduodecimo.

1414. The King's writ to Bishop Ralph to appoint trustworthy men to levy and collect the wools granted by the clergy of the province of Canterbury in the last Parliament, and the tenth of ecclesiastical goods and benefices for one year beyond the triennial tenth now current.

Witness Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Wyndesore, 6 Oct., in the 12th year of our reign.

1415. Execution of the writ as regards the wools.

To the abbot of Glaston.

We assign you to collect the said wools.

1416. Execution as regards the tenths.

To the prior of Bath.

We assign you to levy and collect the said tenths

1417. Return of this writ.

Bishop Ralph to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer.

Whereas we received a writ containing, amongst other things, that we should certify you of the names of those appointed to collect the tenths and wools granted by the prelates and clergy in the council of Northampton and the last convocation of the said clergy. We have appointed the prior of Bath to collect the tenths, and the abbot of Glaston to collect the wools.

In like manner it was returned in the Chancery.

1418. xviij Kal., Dec., 12 Edw. iii.

We, the bishop, have received the attornments of John de Wyke and Egelina his wife, by Thomas de Baunebury or Nicholas Fraunceis, against Walter de Pauely, of Trelesford, in a suit which is before the King.

1419. Breve regium de Parliamento.

Edwardus, &c., venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo salutem. Quia de avisamento consilii nostri ordinauimus, quod super urgentibus negociis, &c., quoddam Parliamentum apud Westmonasterium in crastino sancti Hillarii proximo futuro teneatur, et ibidem vobiscum et cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus dicti regni tractatus et colloquium habeantur, &c. Premunientes priorem, &c.

Teste Edwardo Duce Cornwall et Comite Cestrie filio nostro carissimo Custode Anglie a Kenyngton. xv die Novembris anno regni nostri duodecim.

1420. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 215.

Distrain Simon de Elleworth, parson of Chilton, and Geoffrey de Wroxhale, parson of Bekyngton, executors of the will of John de Erleigh, deceased, late one of the collectors of the scutage of Scotland, for the 4th year of King Edward, our father, in the county of Somerset, by his ecclesiastical goods and benefices that he be before the barons of our Exchequer, at Westminster, on the morrow of St. Hilary to make a view of the account together with Roger de Hyneton, the third executor, and Thomas de Marlebergh, another collector.

Witness J. de Shordich, at Westminster, 23 Oct., in the 12th year of our reign.

1421. Edward, &c. Master William de Luttleton, clerk, is of your diocese and has no lay fee, as John de Ralegh, our sheriff of Devon, has testified. Cause 40*s.*, which he owes us for licence to give a messuage in Exeter in mortmain, to be levied from his goods and benefices in your diocese.

Witness, J. de Shordich, at Westminster, 9 Oct., in the 12th year of our reign.

1422. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Nicholas de Sowy, vicar of Estbrente, to come before our justices to answer to William Duele and John Lyon.

Witness. W. de Shareshull, at York, 26 Oct., in the 12th year of our reign.

1423. Summa quintedecime. xxxvj. *li.* xvij. *s.* ij. *d.* ob.
Summa bonorum juxta quintamdecimam xiiij. sacce. iiij. petre. di. ij. libre.

1424. Writ to Bishop Ralph.
Cause Thomas Deneys, parson of the church of Seleworthi, your clerk, to come before our justices, at Westminster, on the octaves of St. Hilary, to answer to Oliver de Sancto Johanne and Elizabeth his wife, of a plea that he render to them 20 charters, 10 writings obligatory, and 10 writings of agreement.
Witness, W. de Shareshulle, at York, 21 Oct., in the 12th year of our reign.

1425. Writ to Bishop Ralph.
Cause William Le Stabler, vicar of Inglescombe, to come before the barons of our Exchequer, at Westminster, on the quindene of St. Hilary to hear the record and his judgment concerning the suit which was between us and Andrew de Welles, John Danyel, and John de Uppehulle, executors of the will of Nicholas de Wedergraue, deceased, plaintiffs, and the said William, defendant.
Witness, J. de Shordich, at Westminster, 4 Nov., in the 12th year of our reign.

1426. Breve de Parliamento.
Edwardus Dei gratia rex Anglie Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie venérabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia Bathonensi et Wellensi episcopo, salutem. Licet nuper ordinaverimus quod superurgentibus negociis, &c., quoddam Parliamentum apud Westmonasterium in crastino sancti Hillarie proximo
Fol. 216. futuro teneretur, et ibidem vobiscum, ac cum ceteris prelatis, &c. Parliamentum predictum usque crastinum Purificationis B. Marie Virginis proximo tunc sequens apud dictum locum tunc tenendum, de avisamento consilii nostri duximus prorogandum; significantes vobis quod apud predictum locum ad dictum crastinum Hillarii ex causa predicta vos accedere non oportet. Vobis nichilominus in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tenemini mandamus firmiter iniungentes quod consideratis negociorum predictorum arduitate et periculis eciam iminentibus, excusacione qua-

cumque cessante, apud dictum locum Westmonasterium predicto crastino Purificationis B. Marie personaliter intersitis, nobiscum seu cum Custode predicto, si nos fuerimus tunc absentes, ceterisque prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus predictis, &c., Premunientes, &c.

Teste Edwardo duce Cornubie et Comite Cestrie filio nostro carissimo, Custode Anglie, apud Berkhamstede, xxvj die Decembris anno regni nostri duodecimo.*

Per ipsum Regem et dictum custodem et consilium.

1427. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Robert de Baldok, canon of Salisbury, your clerk, to come before our justices, at Westminster, to answer to Juliana Bisshop, executrix of the will of Sybil, who was the wife of Robert Le Boor, of a plea that he render to her *20li.*

Witness, W. de Shareshulle, at York, 3 Nov., in the 12th year of our reign.

1428. Writ to the bishop to collect the tenth and wools.

Witness Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Berkhampstede 16 Jan., in the 12th year of our reign.

Schedule of abbots and priors who are to levy the wools.

*Abbots.*

St. Augustine, Canterbury.
Rameseye.
Peterborough.
Croyland
Evesham.
St. Benedict de Hulmo.
Leicester.
St. Augustine, Bristol.
Waltham Holy Cross.
Thorneye.
St. Edmund.
Bellus Locus Regis.
Abyndon.
Bardeneye.
Hyde juxta Winchester.

Reading.
Glaston.
Wynchecombe.
Westminster.
Cirencestre.
St. Mary, York.
Salop.
Selby.
St. Peter, Gloucester.
Malmesbury.

*Priors.*

St. [John] of Jerusalem.
Spaldyng.
Lewes.
Sepmryngham.

1429. x Kal.. March, A.D. 1338, at Woky. The lord granted to Juliana de Berghes that she can have divine services celebrated in her oratory of Bergh' till Michaelmas.

1430. viij Kal., March, place and year abovesaid. Licence for Master William de Barton to have divine services celebrated in his oratory in the parish of Wynescombe by himself or another for a year.

1431. Writ to Bishop Ralph.
Cause John, parson of the church of Badecombe, your clerk, to come before our justices, at Westminster, to answer to Master Gilbert de Shepton, clerk, of a plea that he render to him 16 marks.
Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 4 Feb., in the 13th year.

1432. Writ to Bishop Ralph.
Cause Thomas de Haselshawe, parson of the church of Chiwe, to come before our justices, at Westminster, to answer to Walter Turk, of London, of a plea that he render to him 9*li.* 10*s.*
Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 12 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

1433. The King to the bishop, Richard Lovel, Richard de Cogan, John Inge, and John de Clyvedon. Fol. 217.

Whereas we assigned you to assemble and cause to come before you at Somerton, and other places, in the county of Somerset, as well the magnates and nobles, as the knights, men-at-arms, and others of the same county being powerful as well in their . . . as their possessions to expound to them the things which were agreed in our Parliament held at Westminster, and to order concerning the elections, arrayings, and armings as well of the men-at-arms as others, and concerning the number of them for the defence of the kingdom against invasions, and to do the other things contained in our letters patent. We send you enclosed with these presents a schedule of certain things touching the array of the men of that county, made with the deliberation of our council. Ordering that with all haste you cause to be arrayed and armed to the number of men-at-arms, armed men and bowmen in the said schedule expressed, at least, besides the great men of the same county and their retinues, who shall set out with the said great men against the enemy, if they shall presume to enter the said kingdom.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, 16 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

[The schedule.]

In the county of Somerset there shall be arrayed 35 men-at-arms, and of the other armed men 140, and of archers 160.

1434. Breve regium pro defensione regni.

To the bishop and others.

Our enemies of France and those adhering to them propose to move against our kingdom before the middle of March next, to destroy the ports and places near the sea, and subsequently to invade the said kingdom. We caused you to assemble the great men and nobles at Somerton and to ordain concerning the arraying of the men of the said county. And whereas the keeper of our kingdom ordered a certain number of bowmen, &c., to be appointed before the middle of March or immediately after, we order you that, delays and excuses ceasing, you be aiding about the premises.

Witness Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., 16 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

Fol. 218. 1435. Commissio ad convocandum Clerum.

The King to Bishop Ralph.

Because we have learnt from some people that our enemies of France propose to move against our kingdom before the middle of March next. Cause the clergy of your diocese to assemble at a certain day before Palm Sunday next, and having shown before them the dangers, do you order a subsidy of men-at-arms, armed men, bowmen and others to be provided at the costs of the said clergy. Array your servants (familiares) and cause them to be provided with suitable arms.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., 16 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

Fol. 219 1436. Writ to Hugh de Courteneye, earl of Devon, Thomas de Berkele, William de Shareshulle, Richard Louel, and John de La Ryvere.

We have learnt from the complaint of Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, that John de Acton, chivaler, Roger Paddoke, Richard Le Fletchere, John, son of Henry Le Forester, of Cheddre, Adam Jones, palfraiman of Acton, John Loueday, Robert atte Boxe, Walter Foul, Richard Paddoke, John Barry, John de Henton, Richard Le Hunte, Richard de Elkynton, John Goys, Richard Hulle, John Poul, and Richard le Faukener, and certain other malefactors, took and carried away the goods and chattels of the said Bishop to the value of 200 marks found at Axebrugge, Cheddre, Westbury, Welles, and Stokegiffard, and assulted and wounded his men and servants. We assign you to inquire, hear. and determine.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., 14 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

[Copy of the same commission.]

1437. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Robert de Baldok, clerk, has no lay fee. Distrain him by his ecclesiastical goods that he be before the barons of our Exchequer, at Westminster, to answer to John de Shordich, a baron of the same Exchequer, for six marks which he owes him.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, at Westminster, 26 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

[Return.] We have caused Master Robert Baldok, clerk, to be distrained.

1438. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

On the 6th day of Oct., in the 12th year of our reign, we ordered you to assign trustworthy men to collect the wools and tenth, and you have not taken care to certify anything yet. Certify the treasurer and barons on the quindene of Easter.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 25 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

[Certificate.] We have appointed John, abbot of Glaston, and Thomas, prior of Bath, to collect.

1439. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Levy from the ecclesiastical goods of Master William de Luttletone which you caused to be sequestrated to the value of 40*s.* as much as he owes us for licence to give a messuage in Exeter to mortmain.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 17 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

[Return.] We send 40*s.* by the bearer.

1440. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

The abbot of St. Augustine, Bristol, has supplicated us that whereas he or his predecessors were not wont to come to our Parliament, nor was he present at our Parliament convoked at Westminster, in the 12th year of our reign, nor at the great council at Northampton held afterwards. Nevertheless, the collectors appointed by you to collect the wools and tenths now strive to compel the said abbot to pay the wools. If the said abbot has paid the triennial tenth for the first year, and the moiety of the same tenth for the second year, pertaining to him for the first term of the anticipation, then order the collectors to levy the moiety of the said triennial tenth for the second year, also the residue of the said triennial tenth, and also the said tenth granted by the clergy, and that they cause the exaction for the wools to be superseded.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Berkhampstede, 20 March, in the 13th year of our reign.

The abbot of Glaston was ordered to obey the writ.

Fol 220. 1441. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Thomas Deneys, rector of Selyworth, your clerk, to come before our justices to answer to Oliver de Sancto Johanne and Elizabeth his wife, of a plea that he render to them 20 charters, 10 writings obligatory, and 10 deeds of agreement.

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 8 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

[Return.] We have caused the clerk to be cited.

1442. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Distrain all those whose names the prior of Bath, late collector of the biennial tenth granted by the clergy in the 10th year of our reign, can show to be in arrear.

Witness R. de Sadyngton, 19 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

1443. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause David Maynard, canon of St. Andrew, Wells, to come before our justices to answer to Clement Tourtle, merchant, of a plea that he render to him 40 marks.

[Return.] We have caused the clerk to be cited.

1444. Edward, &c., to the sheriff of Somerset.

Although lately at the request of the Bishop, signifying to us by his letters patent that John Randulf, of Coleshulle, was excommunicated for contempt, and would not appear for justice by ecclesiastical censure, we commanded you that you bring him to justice by his body according to the custom of England, until he shall satisfy the holy church for the contempt and injury. Because however, the said John is prosecuting an appeal to the Roman Church and the court of Canterbury, we ordered you that you should cause the said bishop to know that he should be before us in our chancery on the morrow of St. Thomas the Apostle last, to show if he had anything to say wherefore the taking of

the body of the said John should not be superseded pending the matter of appeal. And whereas you returned to us that you caused John atte Pulle, bailiff of the bishop's liberty, to have the return of our writ, who gave you no answer thereto. We Fol. 221. command you that you do not omit on account of that liberty, but that you enter into it, and cause the said bishop to know that he be in our chancery on the morrow of the Ascension next.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., 24 Feb., in the 13th year of our reign.

1445. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Wishing for certain causes to be certified of the sum of the wools which ought to pertain to us as well of your proper wools as those of the other clergy of your diocese according to the grant in the Parliament in the 12th year of our reign, and how much thereof is collected by you, and how much remains to be collected, and to whom the said wools by you so collected are delivered, and if it is answered therefore to us, or not. Certify us in our chancery before the quindene of Holy Trinity next.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., 18 Ap., in the 13th year of our reign.

Return. We appointed the abbot of Glaston to collect the wools. Whose proper wools amount to 23 sacks, 9 stone, 4 lbs. The wools received by him from the abbot of Cirencester amount to 45½ stone, 3 lbs., ¼ lb. Our wools amount to 14 sacks, 4½ stone, 10 lbs. No more remain to be collected in our diocese that we know.

1446. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Robert de Helpiston, your clerk, to come before our justices to answer to Margaret, countess of Kent, of a plea that he render to her 20*li.*

Witness, J. de Stonore, 24 April, in the 13th year of our reign

1447. Ordinatio cantarie de Swelle.

To all the faithful of Christ, &c. William [Bytton II] by divine compassion bishop of Bath and Wells, greeting in the

lord. Know ye that we have inspected the charter of Walter de Urtiaco in these words:—

To all, &c., Walter de Urtiaco, lord of Swelle, greeting in the Lord. I have inspected the deed, of good memory, Mabel Revel, my grandmother, in these words.—Know all the faithful that I, Mabel Revel, by my proper will, have given and granted in pure and perpetual alms, for me and my successors the site of the house which I bought of the lord Geoffrey de Marisco, with all the appurtenance, and 20 acres of arable land in one field and 20 in another, and 2 acres of meadow which I likewise bought of the same Geoffrey. And 20 other acres of arable land in one field and 20 in another, of the land called Rouforlang. And 3 acres of meadow and 5 acres of wood, which lie on the east of the way, which is called Holewey, in my manor of Swelle. Moreover, I have granted pasture for 8 oxen (to run everywhere with my oxen outside the meadows and sowings and my park) and pasture for 4 cows, 50 sheep and 4 sows with the issue of one year, in the common foreign pasture in the same my manor of Swelle, freely entirely and quietly without any secular service, &c., for the sustentation of one chaplain who shall celebrate every day the divine service and the full office with "Placebo," Dirige, and the "Commendatio," for the safety of my soul, my predecessors and successors, and for the souls of all the faithful deceased, in the church of Swelle, by the consent of the prior and convent of Bruytone, &c.

Hiis testibus Magistro Waltero de Sancto Quintino tunc archidiacono Tantonie, Galfrido de Beysnineham canonico Exonie Ricardo de Wrotham, milite, Radulpho de Cammel, Ricardo Henrico, Johanne, Waltero, et Willelmo de Urtiaco, fratribus, et multis aliis.

And I Walter de Urtiaco confirm the aforesaid deed of my grandmother. Saving to me and to my heirs for ever the right of presenting a priest to perform the aforesaid office when the said office shall be void of a priest, since it was granted to me and to my heirs by Sabina de Urtiaco, of good memory, daughter and heir of the said Mabel. Moreover, I, the said Walter, have granted in augmentation 3 acres and 1 perch of arable land and half an acre of meadow in pure and perpetual

alms for the sustentation of a lamp and wine for the said office upon the altar of St. Katherine in the said church of Swell. Which said land and meadow I had of the gift of William Gauge in Erneshulle. Hiis testibus, dominis Johanne de Bello Campo, Briano de Gouys, Willelmo de Urtiaco, Rogero de Langeford, Rogero de Blockesworth, Galfrido et Scolonde, Rogero de Arundel, Johanne de Burton, et aliis.

We therefore confirm the said gift. Saving the rights of the mother church.

Woky, vi Id., March, A.D. 1273, and the 7th year of our pontificate.

1447*a*. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Distrain Master Thomas de Haselsshawe and William de Pikesle, executors of the will of Richard de Rodenye, late escheator on this side Trent, by his ecclesiastical goods and benefices, so that he be before the barons of our Exchequer on the quindene of Holy Trinity, to render to us, together with Walter de Rodenye, son and heir of the said Richard, an account for the said Richard, of year, day and waste of a third part of the manor of Gayton which was of Juliana Murdak, and which, for a felony which the same Juliana committed, was in the hand of King E. our father.

Witness. R. de Sadyngton, at Westminster, 30 Ap., in the 13th year of our reign.

1448. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you that you deliver the wool, granted in the 12th year of our reign, to the sheriffs and other receivers, by indenture between you or your deputies and the said receivers.

Witness Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Berkhampstede, 12 June in the year of our reign.

Return. Abbot of Glaston 25 sacks, 4 stone, 1¼lbs., the sack containing 26 stones, the stone containing 14 lbs. Delivered to the sheriff and receivers.

We caused to be delivered 14 sacks, 4½ stones, 2 lbs.

Certificatorum ejusdem brevis directi Abbati de Glaston.

Glaston, 27 July, A.D. 1339.

Fol. 222. 1449. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Distrain Geoffrey de Wroxhale, clerk, executor of the will of John de Erleigh, that he be before the barons of our Exchequer to make, together with Thomas de Marleburgh, late one of the collectors of the scutage of Scotland in the 4th year of King Edward, our father. in the county of Somerset, and Elizabeth who was the wife of John son of de Erleigh, holding the manor of Somerton which was of John, another collector of the same scutage, a view of the scutage aforesaid; and also to pay us all the monies levied.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, at Westminster, 22 June, in the 13th year of our reign.

1450. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 40*s.* to be levied from the goods of Master William de Luttelton, clerk, which you caused to be sequestrated.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 7 July, in the 13th year of our reign.

1451. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Matthew de Valentinis, archdeacon of Bath, to come before our justices to answer to Robert de Tonge, clerk, of a plea that he render to him 100*li.*

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 12 July in the 13th year of our reign.

vii Kal., Sept., at Woky, the said archdeacon swore to preserve the bishop indemnified.

Present J. de Middleton and Robert de Weston, clerks.

1452. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause John, parson of the church of Batecome, your clerk, to come before our justices to answer to Master Gilbert de Shepton clerk, of a plea that he render to him 16 marks.

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 3 May, in the 13th year of our reign.

1453. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Et quia jam cum exercitu nostro nos moventes versus partes Francie progressi sumus . . . Vestram devocionem jam tota mentis devocione iterato duximus excitandam quatinus pro nobis

apud ipsum omnipotentem Deum in missarum celebracionibus verbi Dei prolationibus, deuotis processionibus, jejuniis, vigiliis, et elemosinarum largicionibus, nostri memoriam habentes, piis instare curetis precibus, ut gressus nostros et actus hujusmodi ad sui beneplacitum dirigat et disponat, &c.

Teste Edwardo, Duce Cornubie, &c., apud Wyndesore, xv, die Augusti anno regni nostri terciodecimo.

Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie, Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitannie venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia Episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi salutem. Quia de avisamento consilii nostri ordinauimus quod super arduis et urgentibus negociis, &c., quoddam Parliamentum apud Westmonasterium in quindena sancti Michaelis proximo futura teneatur et ibidem vobiscum ad cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus dicti regni tractatus et colloquium habeantur. Vobis, &c. Premunientes, &c.

Teste Edwardo Duce Cornubie et Comite Cestrie filio nostro carissimo Custode Anglie apud Wyndesore, xxv die Augusti anno regni nostri terciodecimo.

1454. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause John de Kyvele, parson of the church of Wroxhale, your clerk, to come before our justices, at Westminster, to answer to Robert Selyman of a plea that he render to him 40*li.*

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 7 July, in the 13th year of our reign.

1455. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 223.

We wish to be certified what dignities, prebends, churches, hospitals, chapels, and other ecclesiastical benefices, aliens hold in our kingdom and in the parts of Wales, and as well of the names of the dignities as of those holding them. And also of the names of the aliens who personally reside in their benefices, and of the value of each of the dignities and other benefices. We wish, moreover, to be certified what churches, &c., whose presentations are known to belong to aliens, are taken into our hand by reason of the war between us and those of France, from 6 July in the 11th year of our reign.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall &c., 28 Oct., in the 13th year of our reign.

1456. Breve de Parliamento.

Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie, Dominus, &c., venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi, salutem. Cum quidam ardua et urgencia negocia, &c., quoddam aliud Parliamentum statui infra breve ut tunc, deliberacione hujusmodi habita, valeret expositis maturius responderi, &c.

Teste Edwardo Duce Cornubie et Comite Cestrie filio nostro carissimo Custode Anglie apud Langele, xvj. die Nouembris, anno regni nostri terciodecimo.

1457. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 40*s.* to be levied from the goods of Master William de Luttleton which you caused to be sequestrated.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 12 November, in the 13th year of our reign.

Fol. 224. 1458. Edward, &c. Cause Matthew de Valencenis, archdeacon of Bath, to come before our justices to answer to Robert de Tonge, clerk, of a plea that he render to him 100*li.*

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 23 Oct., in the 13th year of our reign.

1459. The King to his justices of the Bench.

We have received the petition of R., bishop of Bath and Wells, exhibited before us and our council in our Parliament, containing that whereas Clement Tourtle, merchant, sues David Maynard, canon of Wells, before you by our writ, for a debt of 40 marks, and because it has been returned before you that the said David is in the diocese of Bath and Wells, it had been ordered that he should cause the said David to come before you, he being warned did not take care to come before you. Wherefore it was commanded to the sheriff of Somerset to distrain the said bishop so that he have the said David before you at another day now past to answer concerning the premises. And although the same David is now for some time deprived of his benefice aforesaid by due process, and he has not another benefice in the same diocese. Nevertheless divers issues are returned upon the same bishop because he had not the said David before you after the deprivation aforesaid to answer before you in the plea aforesaid, to the no small harm of

the said bishop. We command you that, having examined the process in the said plea had before you, and having had fuller information upon the premises by Inquisition, &c., if it appear that the said David has been deprived, and that he has not had another benefice in the same diocese after the said deprivation, and that any issues have been returned upon the said bishop because he had not the said David before you, then cause those issues to be extracted from your rolls and cause the bishop to be quit of the same, altogether surceasing the process against the bishop.

Witness, &c., at Westminster, 6 Feb., in the 14th year of our reign.

1460. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Distrain Andrew de Welles, one of the executors of the will of Nicholas de Wedergave.

Witness, &c., 19 Jan., in the 14th year of our reign.

1461. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We command you, as many times, that you cause to the value of 40*s*., to be levied from the goods of Master William de Luttleton, your clerk.

Witness, &c., 23 Feb., in the 14th year of our reign.

Hic mutatur stilus domini Regis supradicti prout patet in proximo brevi subsequente.

1462. Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie et Francie Dominus Hibernie venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo, salutem. Quia super diversis arduissimis et urgentissimis negociis, &c. Parliamentum nostrum apud Westmonasterium die Mercurii proximo post diem dominicam in medio quadragesime proximo futuram tenere, et ibidem vobiscum ac cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et proceribus dicti regni Anglie colloquium habere volumus et tractatum, &c. Et premuniatis priorem, &c. Non mirantes ex hoc quod stilum nostrum consuetum mutauimus et Regem Francie nos fecimus nominari, nam diverse subsunt cause per quas hoc facere necessario nos oportet, et quas vobis et aliis prelatibus et magnatibus, necnon communitatibus eiusdem regni nostri Anglie ad dictum Parliamentum plenius exponemus. Scientes insuper

quod nolumus nec intencionis nostre existit quod ex assumpcione nominis et honoris eorundem, dicto regno ac terre Anglie aut statui seu. juribus eorundem prejudicetur aut aliqualiter derogetur. Set quod eidem regno uberius subveniatur et relevetur, maturius illud idem, et pro securitate in hac parte ad dictum Parliamentum, si opus fuerit, ordinabimus, quod juxta consilium vestrum et aliorum prelatorum, magnatum, ceterarumque ibidem convocatorum viderimus oportunum.

Teste me ipso apud Herwysz, xxj die Februarii anno dicti regni nostri Anglie xiiij°. regni vero Francie primo.

1463. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Fol. 225. Cause Walter Dyngon, rector of Dunezete, your clerk, to come before our justices to answer to Ralph Northerne, chaplain, of a plea that he render to him *4li.*

Witness, J. de Stonore, Feb. 14, in the 14th year of our reign.

1464. The bishop is distrained to have Geoffrey de Wroxhale, his clerk, before the barons of the Exchequer on the morrow of the close of Easter to answer to the King for the scutage collected in the county of Somerset by John de Erleigh, whose executor he is.

Cavit juratoria cautione coram Camel et J. de Middelton, xi kalend. Maii.

He is also distrained to have Geoffrey de Wroxhale, clerk, before the barons of the Exchequer to answer to the King touching a view of the said scutage. Issues of the bishop, half a mark.

1465. Also the bishop is distrained that he have John, parson of the church of Botecombe, his clerk, before the justices at Westminster to answer to Master Gilbert de Sheptone, clerk, of a plea that he render to him 60 marks.

1466. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

You and the other prelates, and the clergy of the province of Canterbury, granted us a tenth of your and their goods and ecclesiastical benefices for one year beyond the triennial and annual tenths, in your congregation in the church of the Friars

Preachers, London, on Friday, the morrow of S. Juliana the Virgin last past. Assign trustworthy men to collect.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 16 Ap., in the 14th year of our reign.

1467. Writ to Bishop Ralph, Robert FitzPayn, John Inge, and John de Schordich.

The earls, barons and commons in our Parliament, at Westminster, on Wednesday after the Sunday in Mid Lent last, granted us the ninth sheaf, the ninth fleece, and the ninth lamb for the present and next year. And the citizens and burgesses granted a ninth part of their movable goods. And also the merchants dwelling in the cities and burghs, and other men in the forests, &c., granted a fifteenth of the cultures of their fields, and the stock of their proper sheep.

And we trusting upon the fidelity of the abbot of Muchelneye, Simon de Furneyis, Thomas de Marlebergh, Henry Power, John Durburgh, the abbot of Schirborne, John Wake, John de Brydport, and Roger le Gilden, assigned the said abbot of Muchelney, Simon, Thomas, Henry and John Durburgh to inform themselves of the true value of the sheaves, wools and lambs, and of the other movable goods in the county of Dorset, and to collect and sell them.

Moreover, we assigned the said abbot of Muchelneye, Simon, Thomas, Henry, and John Durburgh, in the county of Somerset, and the abbot of Schirborn, John Wake, John de Brudeport, and Roger, in the said county of Dorset, to enquire, touching the value of the movable goods of the citizens and burgesses and the other things aforesaid, &c. We assign you jointly and severally to oversee, give advice, and aid that the premisses shall be more diligently done in form aforesaid, by the said deputies in the said counties. Fol. 226.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 20 Ap., in the 14th year of our reign.

1468. Mandatum de veniendo ad Parliamentum

Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi, salutem. Cum pro defensione et

saluacione regni nostri Anglie ac recuperacione jurium nostrorum et corone nostre sumus, cum quibusdam magnatibus et aliis eiusdem regni nostri ad partes transmarinas, annuente Domino, personaliter profecturi, et dilectum et fidelem nostrum Edwardum, Ducem Cornubie, et Cornitem Cestrie, filium nostrum primogenitum custodem dicti regni nostri Anglie, et locum nostrum tenentem in eodem regno constituerimus dum sic nos absentari contigerit, vel alias nostre placuerit voluntati, ac intimius insideat cordi nostro, quod pax nostra in regno ipso tam in nostra absencia quam presencia illesa firmius obseruetur et idem regnum ac populus noster ibidem ab hostium incursibus tueantur, per quod de assensu consilii nostri ordinavimus quod super premissis, et aliis arduis et urgentibus negociis, &c., quoddam Parliamentum apud Westmonasterium ad diem Mercurii proximo post festum Translationis sancti Thome Martiris proximo futurum teneatur. Vobis in fide, &c. Et premuniatis decanum et capitulum ecclesie vestre Wellensis, necnon priorem et capitulum ecclesie vestre Bathoniensis, &c., loco intersint ad consenciendum, hiis, &c.

Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium, xxx. die Maii, anno regni nostri Anglie quartodecimo, regni vero nostri Francie primo.

Fol. 227. 1469. Royal writ to Bishop Ralph.

Wishing to be certified how long Thomas de Haselshawe, parson of the church of Chyw, held that church, and by whose presentation, &c., We command you that, having searched as well your register, as the register of your immediate predecessors if necessary, you certify us in our chancery without delay.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., 22 June, in the 14th year of our reign.

Return. He held it for four years at our ordinary collation. He was admitted 10 Ap., A.D. 1336. Vacant by the resignation of Richard de Praiers.

1470. Letters patent. Teste Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Kenyngton, 25 July, 14 Edw. iii, as to the subsidy of wool.

"Assentu est a ceste Parlement tenu a Westminster le Mercredy proscheyn apres la feste de Traslacioun de Seynt Thomas lan du regne nostre seignur le Roy Edward Dengleteie

qatorzisme, et de Fraunce premere, en la presence nostre seignur le Duk, gardeyn Dengletere, par Prelatz, Contes, Barons, Piers, et les communes de la tere, que vint mille sacs de leyn soient, pris par tote la tere," &c.

[See "Rolls of Parliament," vol. ii, p. 118.]

1471. Edward, duke of Cornwall, to Bishop Ralph.

At the Parliament last held at Westminster, the great men and commons granted an aid and subsidy. Certain people lately assigned by commission in all the counties to levy the said subsidy and aid have not yet made execution of the said matter, by reason of certain impediments, according to the form of their said commissions. "Et nous sumes bien certein qe par le bon avisements de vous et de vostre aide et diligence mettre en celle partie mesme la busoigne quelle sicome vous savez est bien chargeaunte, purroit prendre mult pluys hastiue esploit a refreschement et profit nostre dit trescher seignur."

Cause to be called before you, or your commissaries, all parsons of churches, prebends, and other benefices of your diocese to show the value of their benefices.

1472. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause William de Clopton, parson of the church of Colde-asshton, your clerk, to come before our justices, at Westminster, on the octaves of St. Michael, to answer to Thomas de Gate, of Arundel, parson of the church of Botheby, of a plea that he render to him 115*s*.

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 28 June, in the 14th year of our reign.

1473. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Nicholas de Westhulle, parson of the church of Weston, to come before our justices, at Westminster, on the quindene of St. Michael, to answer to John de Umfraston of a plea that he together with John de Pencrich, parson of the church of Donynton, render to him 40*s*.

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 14 July, in the 14th year of our reign.

Fol. 228. 1474. Breve de tractatu.

Edwardus Dei gratia, &c., Venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia Episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi, salutem. Quia volumus quod super aliquibus urgentibus negociis nos intime contingentibus qua jam noviter emerserent, per vos et quosdam alios Prelatos, Magnates, et alios de consilio nostro in propinquis partibus agentes. Propter celerem expedicionem negociorum eorundem, apud Westmonasterium, die Lune proximo post festum sancti Michaelis proximo futurum tractatus et colloquiam habeantur. Vobis mandamus in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tenemini firmiter injungentes quod dictis die et loco personaliter intersitis cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus, et aliis de consilio nostro predictis super dictis negociis tractaturi, vestrumque consilium impensuri. Et hoc sicut nos et honorem nostrum et expedicionem negociorum nostrorum diligitis, nullatenus omittatis.

Teste Edwardo Duce Cornubie et Comite Cestrie filio nostro carissimo, Custode Anglie, apud Wyndesore, xiiij die Septembris, anno regni nostri Anglie, xiiij, regni vero nostri Francie primo.

1475. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Know that Master William de Lutleton is quit at our Exchequer of 40*s*., which he owed for licence to give a messuage, in Exeter in mortmain.

Witness, W. de Northwell, at Westminster, 4 Oct., in the 14th year of our reign.

1476. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because, for certain urgent matters concerning us and our expedition, we wish quickly to be informed by the collectors of the procurations of the Cardinals in our kingdom of England. Cause the collectors to come before our Council, at Westminster on the quindene of St. Michael next in their proper persons.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., 20 Sept., in the 14th year of our reign.

1477. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Walter Dyngon, parson of the church of Dunyate, of your

diocese, 1 April last, in our Chancery, acknowledged that he owed 60*li.* to William de Brynton, clerk. Whereof he ought to have paid 10*li.* on the feast of St. John the Baptist next, and and has not yet paid the 10*li.* Cause the said 10*li.* to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the said Walter.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Andeuere, 6 Oct., in the 14th year of our reign.

Execution of the same writ.

To the dean of Cruke, &c, Wherefore we order you that, having deducted 40*s.* due to us and the other charges, ordinary and extraordinary, incumbent on the same church, cause the money aforesaid to be levied from the ecclesiastical goods of the said Walter.

Everecrich, 24 Oct., anno, &c.

1478. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

In our great and urgent necessity, a certain sum of money from the procurations of Peter, titular of St. Praxedis, cardinal priest, and Bertrand, of St. Mary in Aquiro, cardinal deacon, sent by the Pope to restore peace between us and those of France, was received to our use by way of loan. Cause as great a sum to be kept to the use of the said cardinals from the biennial tenth granted by the clergy to the collectors in your diocese.

Witness ourself, at Shuttele, 18 June, in the 14th year of our reign.

1479. The King to the vendors and assessors of the subsidy of the ninth of sheaves, fleeces, and lambs, the ninth of cities and burghs, and the fifteenth of the "homines forinseci" lately granted in the county of Somerset.

Although we commanded you several times that every excuse aud delay having been put aside, you sell the said ninth and fifteenth, and cause the money to be delivered to the receiver in the said county to our use. Nevertheless, on account of certain difficulties and doubts intervening the said ninths and fifteenths, remain to be collected, to our harm, and to the manifest hindrance of our affairs of our kingdom of England. Wherefore it is agreed by us and our council that the levying of the said

subsidy shall be made in the form which follows. The vendors and assessors of the ninth of sheaves, fleeces, and lambs shall cause it to be levied according to the tax of all churches, prebends, and other benefices whatsoever, if the value of the said ninth shall not in any manner attain to the tax of the said men, and at the greater sum when the true value of the ninth exceeds their tax. If it be found by the oath of true and lawful men of the parishes, or by the accounts of the farmers, or other lawful informations that the value of the ninth exceeds the tax of such benefices taxed, as well of things sold as not sold, then cause the said ninth to be levied according to the value so exceeding. And if it does not reach the value of the tax of such benefices then cause the true value to be levied, their tax not being considered, and cause the monies to be delivered to our receivers in the said county that they may send the money to William de Edyngton our receiver of the said subsidy on this side of Trent. We, wishing that the levying of the ninths and fifteenths aforesaid be accelerated, command you that you cause the subsidy of the ninth aforesaid to be levied, and the monies coming therefrom to be delivered to our receiver by indenture between you and him.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 26 Jan., in the 15th year of our reign.

Fol. 229b. 1480. Letter of Edward iii to Bishop Ralph against John, now archbishop of Canterbury.

Commencing. "Veteribus probatur historiis que cotidie geruntur clarius elucescit."

Ending. "Vobis firmiter injungendo mandantes quod hec omnia et singula singillatim et clare in locis quibus expedire videritis publicetis, et faciatis per alios publicari, piam intencionem quam habemus ad subducenda incommoda, et promouenda commoda subditorum, ipsis iuxta datam vobis a Deo sapienciam efficaciter commendantes, et in hiis taliter vos habentes quod vestram debeamus sollicitudinem prouidam merito commendare."

Teste, at Westminster, 10 Feb., 15 Edw. iii.

[Printed in Wilkins' "Concilia," p. 661, under date 13 Feb., 15 Edw. iii., addressed to the prior and chapter of Canterbury.]

1481. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 231.

Whereas you and the other prelates, earls, barons, great men, peers, and commons in our Parliament last assembled at Westminster, granted to us a ninth of sheaves, fleeces, and lambs for two years. And we have understood that you have caused warnings to be made to several religious persons of your diocese not to pay us the said ninth, and to other our faithful men not to levy and collect the said ninth. We inhibit you.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 10 Feb., in the 15th year of our reign.

Breue de veniendo ad Parliamentum.

Summons to attend the Parliament to be held at Westminster on Monday next after the quindene of Easter next to come.

Teste ourself, at Wodestoke, 3 March, in the 15th year of our reign.

[Printed in "Dugdale's Summonses to Parliament," p. 214.]

1482. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas John Boskyn and Joan his wife, before our justices, at Westminster, demanded against Henry Selyman, one messuage in Bruyton, which John Cribbe gave to Stephen de Bydiston and Gunnora his wife and their issue, and which, after the death of the said Stephen and Gunnora, ought to descend to the said Joan as daughter and heir of Stephen and Gunnora. Henry says that Joan is a bastard. Enquire the truth and certify our justices.

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 16 May, in the 14th year of our reign.

1483. [Second] letter from the King to Bishop Ralph, against the Archbishop of Canterbury. Fol. 232.

Commencing. "Citatrix cordium superbia que semper ascendit plerumque generat morbos ex remediis, et ex medicina langorem."

Ending. "Teste me ipso apud Turrim London' xxxj die Marcii anno regni nostri Anglie quintodecimo, regni vero nostri Francie secundo."

[Printed in Wilkins's "Concilia," vol. 1, p. 674.]

Fol. 233. 1484. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Thomas de Haselsshawe, your clerk, to come before our justices, at Westminster, to answer to Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, of a plea that he render to him 200*li.*

Witness, R. Hillary, at Westminster, 2 May, in the 15th year of our reign.

Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Thomas de Haselshaws, canon of Wells, to come before our justices, at Westminster, to answer to Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, of a plea that he render to him 120 quarters of wheat, 40 quarters of winter-wheat, and 160 quarters of oats of the worth of 60*li.*

Witness, R. Hillary, at Westminster, 2 May, in the 15th year of our reign.

Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Thomas de Haselshawe, canon of Wells, to come before our justices, at Westminster, to answer to Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, of a plea that he render to him 160 quarters of wheat, 50 quarters of barley, and 130 quarters of oats of the worth of 200 marks.

Witness, R. Hillary, 2 May, in the 15th year of our reign.

1485. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause William Bolle, parson of the church of Thorne, Robert de Everdon, parson of the church of Hacche, and Nicholas Savage, parson of the church of Berebron, your clerks, to come before our justices, at Westminster, on the morrow of St. John the Baptist, to answer to Thomas Chelre of a plea that the said William render to him 22 marks, that the said Robert render to him 22 marks, and the said Nicholas render to him 22 marks.

Witness, R. Hillary, at Westminster, 18 May, in the 15th year of our reign.

1486. Statute the first, enacted in the Parliament held at Westminster, on the quindene of Easter.

The Franchise of Holy Church, the Great Charter, the Charter of the Forest, and the other Statutes of our Sovereign

Lord the King and his progenitors, peers and commons, to be firmly kept.

No peer of the land shall be brought to judgment to lose his temporalities, lands, tenements, goods, and chattels, nor to be arrested, nor imprisoned, &c., but by award of the said peers in Parliament.

If any minister of the King, or other person, do come against any point of the Great Charter, he shall answer in the Parliament.

The chancellor, treasurer, &c., of the Exchequer, justices, &c., shall be now sworn in this Parliament, to keep and maintain the privileges and franchises of Holy Church, the Great Charter, the Charter of the Forest, and all other Statutes.

If any of the officers aforesaid, controllers, chief clerk in the Common Bench or King's Bench, by death or other cause be out of office, the King by accord of the great men who shall be nearest, shall put another in the said office.

The King shall have the cognizance of dead usurers. The ordinaries of holy church have the cognizance of living usurers, to make compulsion by censures of holy church for the sin, to make restitution of the usuries taken. Ministers of holy church shall have writs in the Chancery to the justices and other ministers at all times.

1487. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 234b.

Distrain John de Middelnye, clerk, so that he be before the barons of our Exchequer to answer to us, together with Ralph Middelnye and Richard del Orcye, touching certain goods and chattels to the value of 23*li.* 16*d.* which were of John del Orcye on the day he died at Stoke, Tristre, co. Somerset.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 12 July, in the 15th year of our reign.

1488. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Thomas de Haselshawe, parson of the church of Chiw, executor of the will of Robert de Haselshawe, late . . . . of the church of St. Andrew, Wells, your clerk, to come before our justices, to answer to Adam de Appelleigh, parson of the church of Kidesford, executor of the will of William de Gryn-

denham, of a plea that he, together with Peter de Shaldeford, executor of the will of the said Thomas, render to him 60 marks.

Witness, R. Hillari, at Westminster, 15 June, in the 15th year of our reign.

Fol. 235. 1489. The King to Bishop Ralph declaring the statute in the late Parliament to be of no effect.

Commences. "Cum pridem in Parliamento nostro apud Westmonasterium in quindena Pasche proximo preterita convocato, quedam legibus et consuetudinibus regni nostri Anglie expresse contraria, et regie dignitati nostre nedum valde prejudicialia sed probosa fuissent nimis importune petita."

Ends. "Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium primo die Octobris anno regni nostri Anglie quintodecimo, regni vero nostri Francie secundo."

[Printed in Wilkins's "Concilia," vol. ii., p. 681.]

1490. Writ to Bishop Ralph to pray for the King, who is about to set out for the parts of France, and has thought fit to send another army to the parts of Scotland.

Commences. "Terribilis in judiciis et inscrutabilis in consiliis Rex celestis."

End. "Datum apud Turrim London' xij die Augusti anno regni nostri Anglie sexto decimo regni vero Francie tercio."

[Printed in Wilkins's "Concilia," vol. ii., p. 695.]

1491. Edward, &c., as above, and to his official, and their commissaries.

Whereas our chapel of St. Martin Le Grand, London, with the chapel and prebend annexed are exempt from all jurisdiction of the ordinary. You, nevertheless, intend to exercise the office of visitation in the chapel and prebends to the same our chapel annexed, in the county of Somerset. We prohibit you.

Fol. 235b. Witness ourself, at Westminster, 8 May, in the 16th year of our reign.

1492. Edwardus Dei gracia Rex Anglie et Francie et Domi-

nus Hibernie venerabili in Christo patri Radulpho eadem gracia Episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi, salutem. Quia pro defensione et salvatione regni nostri Anglie ac expedicione guerre nostre, Francie passagium nostrum ad partes transmarinas duximus ordinandum, Nos de bono regimine dicti regni et conservatione pacis ejusdem ac directione proinde negotiorum nostrorum et aliorum publicam utilitatem concernencium dum sic absentes fuerimus merito soliciti ordinavimus quoddam consilium seu tractatum tenendum vobiscum et cum aliis prelatis, magnatibus et communitatibus dicti regni super hiis apud Westmonasterium die Mercurii proximo post post festum sancti Edwardi Confessoris proxime futuro per Edwardum Ducem Cornubie et Comitem Cestrie filium nostrum carissimum quem custodem dicti regni constituimus, nobis sic agentibus in remotis. Et ideo vobis in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tenemini firmiter injungentes mandamus quod, omnibus aliis pretermissis, dictis die et loco personaliter intersitis cum prefato custode nomine nostro et cum ceteris prelatis, magnatibus et communitatibus antedictis super premissis tractaturi, vestrumque consilium inpensuri. Premunientes Priorem et Capitulum ecclesie vestre Bathoniensis ac Decanum et Capitulum ecclesie vestre Wellensis, archidiaconos, totumque clerum vestre diocesis, quod dicti Prior, Decanus, et archidiaconi in propriis personis suis, dictumque Capitulum per unum, et dictus clerus per duos per duos (*sic*) procuratores sufficientem potestatem ab ipsis habentes ad dictos diem et locum intersint ad consenciendum hiis que tunc ibidem favente Deo contigerit ordinari super negociis antedictis. Et hoc sicut nos et honorem nostrum ac salvacionem et defensionem dicti regni nostri diligitis nullatenus omittatis. Scituri gratitudinem et ingratitudinem quas nobis in absencia nostra jam ostendi contigerit plus ponderabimus quam si fierent dum presentes essemus et eas curabimus juxta merita seu demerita compensare.

Teste me ipso apud Eastry xij die Septembris, anno regni nostri Anglie xvj regni vero nostri Francie tertio.

1493. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 2 6.

Distrain John de Sancto Paulo, clerk, by his goods and ecclesiastical benefices so that he be before the barons of our

Exchequer to render to us an account of the issues and profits of the priories of Hagham and Burwelle.

Witness R. de Sadyngton, 12 Nov., in the 16th year of our reign.

[Return.] We have caused the within written John to be distrained.

1494. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

You and the other prelates and the clergy of the province of Canterbury, in your last congregation in the church of St. Paul, London, granted us a certain annual tenth in subsidy of expenses in the parts beyond the seas. Assign trustworthy men to collect.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Kenyngton, 30 Nov. in the 16th year, of our reign.

Certificate. Bishop Ralph to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer.

We have appointed Sir Walter de London, dean of Wells, to collect and levy the said tenth. Wyvelescombe, 20 Dec., A. D. 1342.

1495. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Although we ordered you to distrain John de Sancto Paulo [as on p. 402]. Because, nevertheless considering the poverty of the priory of Hagham, we ordered our sheriff of Lincoln to deliver its possessions of the prior. Because the priory of Burnwell is of our duchy of Aquitaine, and not of the dominion of France (and by another writ we ordered James de Kyngeston, clerk, to take such priories, &c., into our hand). Surcease the execution of our said mandate to distrain the said John.

Witness, E. duke of Cornwall, 20 Dec., in the 16th year of our reign.

1496. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

Although we assigned 200*li.*, from the tenth last granted to us by the clergy, to our clerk, Master Paul de Monte Florum. We order you that immediately you have seen these presents you enjoin all collectors in your diocese to collect and keep the monies to our use without paying any to the said Master Paul.

Witness, W. de Cusancia, our treasurer, at Westminster, 4 March, in the 17th year of our reign.

1497. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 237.

It is shown to us on the behalf of John Gerneville whom, excommunicated at your denunciation, we ordered to be brought to justice by our sheriff of Somerset, until holy church should be satisfied for the contempt and injury, that although the same John frequently offered a fitting caution to obey the orders of the church in form of law, you refused to admit such caution from him, whereat we wonder. And because we are unwilling that the same John be detained longer in prison contrary to justice, we command you that, having accepted from the same John the caution aforesaid, you order him to be delivered from prison.

Witness, Edward, duke of Cornwall, &c., at Kenyngton, 17 Feb., in the 17th year of our reign.

1498. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Wishing for certain causes to be certified of the names of all aliens beneficed in your diocese, and of the names of the benefices of the same, and who reside in their benefices, and who do not. We command that you certify us thereof in our Chancery before the feast of St. James the Apostle next.

Witness ourself, at Arundell, 8 July, in the 17th year of our reign.

1499. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 120 quarters of wheat, 40 quarters of winter-wheats, and 160 quarters of oats, to be made from the ecclesiastical goods and chattels of Thomas de Haselschawe, canon of Wells, and have them before our justices, at Westminster, on the octaves of St. Michael, to be rendered to Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells, also 10*li.* from the lands and chattels of the said Thomas for damages for withholding the said debt, as appears by a jury taken before William de Shareshalle, John de Stonford, and Hamon de Derworthy, our justices assigned to take assizes in co., Somerset, on Tuesday next before the feast of St. Gregory the Pope last past, at Somerton.

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 21 June, in the 17th year of our reign.

1500. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 200*li.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods and chattels of Thomas de Haselschawe to render to Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells [&c., as in the writ next preceding].

Witness, &c., 21 June, in the 17th year of our reign.

1501. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Axebrugge and the rector of the church of Shepham.

We lately received certain royal writs (the two writs next preceding) which we send you to inspect. Being hindered by various and arduous matters we cannot attend to the execution at present. We commit our offices to you.

Banewell, ii Kal., July, A. D. 1343.

1502. Certificate of aliens.

Master Raymund Peregrine, canon of Wells, and prebendary of Hengestrigge; who does not reside.

Master Isnard Gasquy, canon of Wells, and prebendary of Wyvelescombe; who does not reside.

William de Monte, vicar of Wollavyngton; and he resides in his vicarage.

The abbot and convent of Bec Herewyne have the prebend of Clyve, in our church of Wells; who do not reside.

The abbot and convent of Jumiege have the church of Chyvton; and they do not reside.

The prior of Montacute has the church of Montacute; and he resides in the said priory.

The abbot and convent of Grasse (de Grastino) have the church of Norton near Montacute; and they do not reside.

The prior and convent of Goldclyve have the churches of Puriton, Wollavynton, and Netherstaweye; and they do not reside in any of them.

The abbot and convent de Periculo Maris have a portion in the church of Mertoke; and they do not reside.

The prior of Stokecurcy has the church of Stokecurcy; and he resides in the same.

Dated at Banewelle, 10 Aug., A. D. 1343.

1503. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause John de Meysy, your clerk, to come before our justices to answer to William de Tengemouth, of a plea that he render to him 24*li.*

Witness, J. de Stonore, 28 June, in the 17th year of our reign.

1504. Breve de veniendo ad consilium regis. Fol. 238.

Edwardus, &c., venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia episcopo Bathoniensi et Wellensi, salutem. Quia super quibusdam arduis negociis tam statum et honorem sancte ecclesie quam salvacionem et defensionem regni nostri Anglie concernentibus vobiscum et cum ceteris prelatis dicti regni apud Westmonasterium die Mercurii proximo post festum Nativitatis Beate Marie Virgines proximo futurum colloquium habere volumus et tractatum; Vobis in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tenemini firmiter injungendo mandamus quod, omnibus aliis pretermissis, dictis die et loco personaliter intersitis, nobiscum et cum ceteris prelatis predictis tractaturi vestrumque consilium impensari. Et hoc sicut nos et honorem nostrum ac sancte ecclesie ac salvacionem et defensionem dicti regni nostri diligitis nullatenus omittatis.

Teste me ipso apud Claryndon, xxv die Julii anno regni vero nostri Francie quarto.

1505. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Vobis districte prohibemus ne personas aliquas alienigenas vel eorum procuratores aut nuncios ad aliqua beneficia ecclesiastica dicti regni virtute aliquarum provisionum dicte sedis apostolice] seu bullarum apostolicarum seu processuum in hac parte factorum vobis directorum seu dirigendorum in futurum sub quocumque colore per vos vel alios admittatis, nec ipsis alienigenis de hujusmodi beneficiis auctoritate dicte sedis provideatis, &c.

Teste me ipso apud Claryndon xx° die Julii anno regni nostri Anglie xvii°.

1506. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

It appears that Master Walter de London, dean of Wells, collector of the tenth granted to us by the clergy, in the 16th

year of our reign, in your diocese, is charged in his account lately rendered at the Exchequer, for 4*s.* 8*d.* for the church of Stawelle; 16*s.* 8*d.* for the church of Mersshton; 16*d.* for the church of Rympton; 8*s.* 8*d.* for the church of Chyryton; 8*s.* 8*d.* for the church of Gothull; 13*s.* 5*d.* for the church of Stoke Underhamedon; 18*s.* 4*d.* for the church of Cycelber; 8*s.* 8*d.* for the church of Upper Stanweye; 6*s.* 8*d.* for the church of Stokelond; 5*s.* 4*d.* for the church of Wutton; 8½*d.* for the pension of the church of Wells, in the church of Stokegommer; 8*s.* for the church of Kydesford; 6*s.* 8*d.* for a portion of the third portion in the church of Cruk; 13*s.* 4*d.* for the church of Kyngestane; 16*d.* for the church of Westharpetre; 9*s.* 4*d.* for the church of Fernleigh.

Cause the said moneys to be paid from the ecclesiastical goods of the debtors.

Witness, W de Stowe, at Westminster, 23 Oct., in the 17th year of our reign.

1507. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because we wish to be certified concerning the name of the last parson presented by us or our predecessors to the church of Walcote; having searched the registers certify us in our Chancery of that which you find.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 6 Nov., in the 17th year of our reign.

1508. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because we wish to be certified concerning the name of the last parson presented by us or our predecessors to the church of Batheneston, of your diocese; having searched the registers certify us in our Chancery of what you find.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 11 Nov., in the 17th year of our reign.

Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Same as previous one but for the church of Weston; Bath.

Fol. 239. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

"Like writs came anew, for the churches of Walcote, Batheneston, and Weston and Forde as appears above, and of the same date, and as heretofore."

1509. Thomas de Cary, sheriff of Somerset, to the bailiff of the liberty of the bishop of Bath and Wells. I have received the mandate of the lord the King in these words:—

Edward, &c., to the sheriff of Somerset. Put Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, by bail and safe pledges that he be before our justices, at Westminster, on the octaves of the Purification to show wherefore, whereas we wishing to be certified concerning the name of the parson last presented by us or our predecessors to the church of Forde, the bishop did not take care to signify to us, in manifest contempt of our commands.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 12 Jan., in the 17th year of our reign.

Like writs came anew for Walcote, Batheneston, and Weston, and of the same date.

Return of the writs aforesaid.

We have caused the registers to be searched, but we cannot find that any parson was presented by you or your predecessors to the churches contained in the writs.

1510. Bishop Ralph to Robert, prior of Bruyton.

You may sell or grant one livery to Robert, son of Nicholas Druet, of Almesford, for the term of his life.

Wyvele[scomb], Non., Feb., A.D. 1343, and the 15th year of our consecration.

1511. Bishop Ralph to the archdeacon of Bath or his official.

We have received the King's writ in these words. Edward, &c., to R. bishop of Bath and Wells. It appears that Master Walter de London, dean of Wells, collector of the tenth last granted by the clergy in the diocese of Bath and Wells, is charged for the sums underwritten. Churches of Stawell 4*s.* 8*d.* Rempton 16*d.*; Stoke 13*s.* 4*d.*; Upper Stoweye 8*s.* 8*d.*; Stokelonde 6*s.* 8*d.*; Kydeford 8*s.*; Henton 6*s.* 8*d.*; 13*s.* 4*d.* for the third portion of the church of Cruk'; Kyngeston 13*s.* 4*d.*; pension of Westharpetree 9*d.*; prebend of Lutton 13*s.* 4*d.*; prebend of Tymbrescombe 6*s.* 8*d.* Cause the monies to be made from the ecclesiastical goods and benefices of the clerks holding the said benefices.

Witness, W. de Stowe, 24 Jan., in the 18th year of our reign.

We commit our offices to you to levy the monies from the subjects of the archdeaconry of Bath. Wyvel[scomb], 9 Feb., A.D. 1343.

Like commissions directed to the dean of Wells, and the archdeacons of Wells and Taunton.

1512. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 200*li.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of Thomas de Haselsaghe and 20*li.* for damages which the bishop recovered in our court.

Witness, W. Scot, at York, 6 Feb., in the 18th year of our reign.

Fol. 240. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 160 quarters of wheat, 50 quarters of barley, and 130 quarters of oats, of the worth of 200 marks, to be made from the goods of Thomas de Haselsaghe, canon of Wells, which he withheld from Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells.

Witness, W. Scot, at York, 6 Feb., in the 18th year of our reign.

Writ to Bishop Ralph to cause 120 quarters of wheat, 40 quarters of winter wheat and 160 quarters of oats, and 10*li.* damages to be made from the goods of Thomas de Haselsshawe, canon of Wells, which he withheld from Bishop Ralph.

Witness, W. Scot, 6 Feb., in the 18th year of our reign.

1513. Like writ to Bishop Ralph to cause 200*li.* and 20*li.* damages to be made from the goods of Thomas de Haselshawe.

Witness, W. Scot, at Westminster, 6 May, in the 18th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused goods to the value of 40*s.* to be taken, which remain for lack of purchasers.

1514. Writ to Bishop Ralph (as in No. 1512).

Witness, &c., 6 May, 18 Edw. iii.

Return. We have caused goods to the value of 30*s.* to be taken.

Execution committed to the rectors of Netelcombe and Shepham.

1515. Writ to Bishop Ralph (as in No. 1512).
Witness, &c., 6 May, 18 Edw. iii.
Return. We have caused the goods of Thomas de Haselsshawe to be taken to the value of 30*s*.

1516. Writ to Bishop Ralph.
William Poulet and Thomasia, his wife, recovered their presentation to the chapel of Wyke against Richard Cnap, by default of the said Richard. Admit a fit parson at the presentation of the said William and Thomasia.

1517. Writ to Bishop Ralph.
Because, for certain causes inwardly touching the declaration of our royal right, we wish to be certified concerning the name of the last parson presented by us or our progenitors to the church of Walcote, of your diocese. Having searched the registers, certify us in our Chancery of what you find.
Witness ourself, at Westminster, 12 May, in the 18th year of our reign.
Return. We do not find any parson presented by you or your predecessors to the church of Walcote at any time.

1518. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol. 241.
We prohibit that you admit a parson to the church of Chafcombe, which is vacant, and touching the advowson of which contention is moved in our court between Idonia, who was the wife of Hugh de Bello Campo, and Roger de Stokelynche, until it shall be discussed to which of them the advowson pertains.
Witness ourself, at Westminster, 6 June, in the 18th year of our reign.

1519. Writ to Bishop Ralph.
Whereas on the 8th day of June last past we pardoned Cecilia de Manston, of Pontefract, all issues, goods and chattels forfeited before William de Thorp and his associates, justices lately

assigned to hear and determine divers felonies in the county of Somerset.

We command you, that you cause all the goods and chattels of the said Cecilia being in your custody by reason of your liberty, as it is said, to be delivered to the said Cecilia.

Witness, W. de Stowe, at Westminster, 11 June, in the 18th year of our reign.

1520. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas we, the prebend of Wetewang, in the church of the Blessed Peter, of York being lately vacant, by reason of the archbishopric of York being vacant, conferred it on William de Kildesby, and afterwards, understanding that one Gailard de Duro Forti claimed the right in the said prebend, we, by a plea before our justices of the bench, recovered the said prebend. Certain people propose to impugn our rights. We prohibit you.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 16 April, in the 18th year of our reign.

1521. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Put up to sale the goods of Thomas de Haselshawe which you hold to the value of 40*s.*, and cause Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, to have the money. Also cause 200*li.* to be made from the goods of the said Thomas, and also 18*li.* the residue of 20*li.* and cause the said bishop to have them.

Witness, W. Scot, 2 July, in the 18th year of our reign.

Return. The goods still remain for lack of purchasers. Besides those we have taken to the value of 100*s.*

1522. Memorandum of royal writs exhibited 22 August, A.D. 1344 by Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, in his chamber at Evercrich.

Present, Stephen Tripp and William de Cammel, public notaries; John, rector of Jeuele; Nicholas, rector of Cheleworthe; Nicholas de Bromlegh, clerk.

Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause the goods of Thomas de Haselshawe which you received to the value of 30*s.* to be put up to sale, and cause Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, to have the money. Also cause 160 quarters

of wheat, 50 quarters of barley, and 130 quarters of oats, to be made from the goods of the said Thomas, and also 18*li.*

Witness, &c., 2 July, in the 18th year of our reign.

Return. They yet remain for lack of purchasers. Besides those we have taken to the value of 100*s.*

Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Put up to sale the goods of Thomas de Haselshawe to the value of 30*s.* which you took. Also cause 120 quarters of wheat, 40 quarters of winter wheat, and 60 quarters of oats, and 8*li.* 10*s.* to be made, and cause Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, to have them.

Witness, W. Scot, at Westminster, 2 July, in the 18th year of our reign.

Return. The goods yet remain for lack of purchasers.

Commission upon the last writ.

By authority of which writ we, Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, have caused the rents and issues of the prebend of Wormesterre, and of the grange of the canons of Wells to be sold to Master John de London, canon of Wells, and William de Lanwele, rector of Lutton.

Euercrich, iii Id., July, A.D. above.

1523. Commission concerning the first two of the last three writs touching Haselsshaue. Fol. 242.

Bishop Ralph to the rectors of Lutton, Cheleworth and Schepham.

Being hindered by various and arduous affairs we cannot attend to the execution of the writs, we commit our offices to you.

Everecrich, xvii Kal., Aug., A.D. 1344.

1524. Writ to [Bishop Ralph].

Cause Bartholomew Tyrel, canon of Wells, to come before our justices, at Westminster, to answer to Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, of a plea that he render to him 80*li.*

Witness, J. Stonore, 6 July, in the 18th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused Bartholomew Tirel to be cited.

1525. Bishop Ralph to all, &c.

We have ordained and appointed Richard Golde, our citizen

of Bath, as warden of our prison and the prisoners in our city of Bath.

Banewell, 27 Sept., in the 16th year of our consecration.

1526. Guarantee for execution of office of gaoler.

Bond of Richard Golde, of Bath, Alexandre le Deighare, Richard le Vignour, Thomas Stote, John Durecote, Robert le Deyghaere, the younger, and Robert Columbel, of Bath, to Bishop Ralph in 40*li.* of silver.

Bath, 26 Sept., 18 Edw. iii.

1527. Bishop Ralph to all, &c.

Although Richard Golde, Alexander le Deyghare, Richard le Veygnour, Thomas Stote, John Durecote, Robert le Deyghare, the younger, and Robert Columbel, of Bath, are bound to us in 40*li.* We, nevertheless, grant that if the said Richard Golde shall well and faithfully keep our said prison and the prisoners in the same, these letters obligatory shall be held for nothing.

Banewell, 27 Sept., 18 Edw. iii.

1528. Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie ballivis ville de Welles salutem. Cum inter ceteras libertates civibus civitatis de Nova Sarum per cartas progenitorum nostrorum quondam regum Anglie concessas concessum sit eisdem quod ipsi et eorum heredes aut successores imperpetuum sint quieti de thealonio pontagio, passagio, paiagio, lestagio, stallagio, cariagio et omnia alia consuetudine de omnibus rebus suis, Et nos cartas illas per cartam nostram confirmavimus, et insuper concesserimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris eisdem civibus quod licet ipsi seu eorum antecessores libertatibus et quietanciis predictis et earum contentis, aut earum contentis, aut earum aliqua antea plene usi non fuerint, ipsi tamen cives et eorum heredes et successores libertatibus et quietanciis predictis et earum qualibet exnunc absque inquietacione et impedimento plene gaudeant et utantur. Et nos similiter per dictam cartam nostram concesserimus pro nobis et heredibus nostris eisdem civibus quod ipsi et eorum heredes et successores imperpetuum sint quieti de pesagio, terragio, picagio, pavagio, chiminagio, muragio, fossagio, pedagio, kaiagio et de omnibus aliis consuetu-

dinibus de omnibus bonis et mercandisis suis infra regnum nostrum, prout in dicta carta nostra plenius continetur Vobis precipimus quod ipsos cives, de theolonio, pontagio, passagio, paiagio, lestagio, stallagio, cariagio, pesagio, pavagio, terragio, picagio, chiminagio, muragio, fossagio, pedagio, et kaiagio predictis in villa predicta, quietos esse permittatis iuxta tenorem cartarum confirmacionis et concessionis predictarum ipsos contra tenorem earundem non molestantes indebite seu gravantes.

Teste me ipso apud Westmonasterium. xxij die Octobris anno regni nostri Anglie decimo octauo, regni vero nostro Francie quinto.

1529. [to Bishop Ralph].

We prohibit that you admit a parson to the church of Clotheworthe, concerning the advowson of which contention is moved in our court between John, son of Peter de Bradeston, and William de Langebroke and Isabella his wife, and Philip de Cloteworthe and Margaret his wife.

Witness ourself, at Melforde, 3 December, in the 18th year of our reign.

1530. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Bartholomew Tirel, parson of Radenore, to come before our justices to answer to John de Evesham, parson of the church of Lodelowe, executor of the will of William de Lyneye, of Lodelowe, of a plea that he render to him 40 marks.

Witness, J. Stonore, at Westminster, 2 Dec., in the 18th year of our reign.

Return. We could not execute on account of the shortness of the time.

1531. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Hugh, parson of Farfforde, to come before our justices to answer to John de Whyttokesmede of a plea that he restore to him a certain writing obligatory.

Witness, J. de Stonore, 10 November, in the 18th year of our reign.

Return. We could not execute on account of the shortness of the time.

F.1 243. 1532. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

You and the other prelates and the clergy of the diocese of Canterbury granted to us in the congregation in the church of St. Paul, London, on the morrow of Holy Trinity last past, a tenth of your ecclesiastical goods and benefices for three years. Appoint trustworthy men to collect.

Witness ourself, at Hoxne, 18 Dec., in the 18th year of our reign.

And the lord committed to the abbot of Glaston to levy and collect the tenth aforesaid.

1533. Bishop Ralph to the treasurer and barons of the Exchequer.

Whereas we received a royal writ to certify you of the names of those appointed to collect and levy the triennial tenth. We have appointed the abbot of the monastery of Glaston.

Wyuel[scomb], 22 Jan., A.D. 1334.

1534. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause John de Worth, parson of Obbelegh, to come before our justices to answer to Master Robert de Worth, canon of Sarum, of a plea that he render to him 15*li.* 17*s.* 6*d.*

Witness, J. de Stonore, 1 Dec., in the 18th year of our reign.

Return. We could not execute on account of the shortness of the time.

1535. Writ to Bishop Ralph, as in No. 1530.

Witness, J. de Stonore, 15 Feb., in the 19th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused Bartholomew Tyrel to be cited.

1536. Writ to Bishop Ralph, as in No. 1534.

Witness, J. de Stonore, 18 Feb., in the 19th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused John de Worth to be cited.

1537. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas we lately ordered Bartholomew Tyrel, clerk, to pay to Henry de Cergby and Henry, son of Nicholas, 55*s.* for wools taken from them to our use by John Amory and his fellows late *captores* of the wools in co. Leicester, in which the said Bartholomew was bound to us for the value of the goods and chattels

which were of Hugh Tyrel, late sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, and he has not taken care to pay the said Henry and Henry, in contempt of us. Cause 15*s.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of the said Bartholomew.

Witness, W. Shareshull, 29 April, in the 19th year of our reign.

1538. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Thomas de Haselshaghe, parson of the church of Chieu, to come before our justices to answer to Robert de Plesyngton and Robert de Hernesby of a plea that he render to them 20 marks.

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 23 April, in the 19th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused Thomas de Haselshawe to be cited.

1539. Writ to Bishop Ralph to offer up prayers. Fol. 244.

Begins. Cum sit milicia vita hominis super terram.

Ends. Devocionem vestram ex corde rogamus, quatinus pro nobis ac felici nostro et fidelium nostrorum progressu expedicione et regressu divinam suppliciter interpelletis clemenciam et per vestras civitates et diocesim preces devotas effundi . . . Datum apud Westmonasterium xv° die Junii anno regni nostri Anglie xix° regni vero nostri Francie sexto.

1540. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 10*s.* to be made from the ecclesiastical goods of Stephen de Stoford, parson of Whatelegh, and have them before William de Shareshull and his associates, our justices assigned to take the assizes in the county of Somerset, at Wells, on Thursday next after the feast of St. Lawrence, to render to Hugh de Aston and his associates the clerks and marshalls of the said justices for their damages assigned to them at Somerton by William de Teste, of Hardyngton.

Witness, J. de Stonford, at Somerton, 10 March, in the 19th year of our reign.

1541. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 47 marks and 10*s.* to be made from the ecclesiastical

goods of brother Oger, prior of Otriton, *commonachus* of Nicholas, abbot of St. Michael de Periculo Maris, in your diocese, and have them at Wells on Thursday next after the feast of St. Lawrence to render to Master Richard de Thistelden, parson of the church of Mertoke and treasurer of the church of St. Andrew of Wells, for 40*s.* and damages adjudged to him by reason of a certain disseisin of 100*s.* of rent in Mertoke.

Witness, W. de Shareshull, 24 April, in the 19th year of our reign.

1542. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause 20*li.* to be made from the goods of Thomas de Haselssuagh, parson of Chyw, to render to the prior of Bath for arrears of an annual rent of 10 marks which the predecessor of the said prior recovered against Adam de Burleye, then parson of Chyw, on the quindene of Easter 10 Edw. ii.

Witness, J. de Stonore, 8 July, in the 18th year of our reign.

1543. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Master James de Molton, clerk, to come before our justices on the octaves of St. Michael to answer to us of a plea wherefore, whereas we recovered our presentation to the prebend of Houedon, in the church of the Blessed Peter, of Houedon, against the said James, and John, prior of Durham, and Master Edmund de Haukesgarth; he, by colour of a provision made to him by the Roman Court as he asserts, has endeavoured to intrude.

Witness, J. de Stonore, 4 July, in the 19th year of our reign.

1544. The last day of September A.D. 1345, Master James de Molton, rector of Craucomb, at Banewell, swore that he will preserve the lord indemnified as regards that writ aforesaid.

Present. Master S. Trippe and Thomas Forneaux.

Fol. 245. 1545. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Walter de London, dean of Wells, collector of the tenth granted to us by the clergy in the 16th year of our reign, in the diocese of Bath is charged for 13*s.* 4*d.* for the prebend of Lutton.

Cause the monies to be made from the ecclesiastical goods and benefices of the prebendary of the prebend aforesaid.

Witness, W. de Stowe, 20 July, in the 19th year of our reign.

1546. The King to the sheriff of Somerset. Put Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, by safe pledges that he have William de Monketon, clerk, at Westminster, to answer to John Tutebold and John Bitesee, executors of the will of Richard Tutebolde, of a plea that he render to them 100*s*.

Witness, J. de Stonore, 25 Oct., in the 19th year of our reign.

1547. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause John Yoel, parson of the church of Saltforde, to come before our justices to answer to Cecilia de Mauston of a plea that she render to him chattels to the value of 200*s*.

Witness, &c., 15 Nov., in the 19th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused John Joel, clerk, to be cited.

1548. Writ to Bishop Ralph,

Cause Henry de Penne, parson of Aisshebrittel, to come before our justices to answer to John Everard, the younger, and Stephen de Launey, executors of the will of Alice, who was the wife of John Launey, of a plea that he render to them 60*s*.

Witness, &c., 22 Oct., in the 19th year of our reign.

Return. This writ came so slowly that we could not execute it.

1549. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Cause Thomas atte Felde, parson of the church of Stoke Abbatis, to come before our justices to answer to Isabella de Brauncestre, of London, of a plea that he render to her 11 marks.

Witness, &c., 19 Oct., in the 19th year of our reign.

Return. Thomas atte Felde, clerk, has no benefice in our diocese.

1550. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas Philip Frankelayn, of Bacwelle, and Edith his wife

before our justices, at Westminster, demanded against John Selyman 1 acre of land, with the appurtenances, in Bacwelle, as the inheritance of Edith, the same John objected that the said Edith was a bastard. Enquire diligently thereupon.

It was enquired into by the archdeacon of Bath.

Witness, J. de Stonore, 28 Nov. in the 19th year of our reign.

Bishop Ralph to the King's justices.

We find that the said Edith is not a bastard.

Banewell, 25 Jan., A.D. 1345.

1551. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Because for certain causes we wish to have conversation with the aliens beneficed and being in our kingdom of England, and with the proctors, farmers and bailiffs of all aliens so beneficed and living outside the same kingdom, the benefices of which aliens are not yet taken into our hand. Warn all such aliens residing within your diocese and all proctors, &c., that every of them under forfeiture of all things, be before us and our Council, at London, on Monday in the first week of Lent next to come to talk and treat with us and with our said Council upon certain matter concerning the salvation and defence of our said kingdom.

Certify us of the names of those whom you shall so cause to be warned.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 12 Feb., in the 20th year of our reign.

1552. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

We prohibit that you admit a parson to the church of Exeforde concerning the advowson of which contention is moved in our court between Philip de Drokenesforde and Richard de Acton.

Witness ourself, at Westminster, 27 Jan., in the 20th year of our reign.

1553. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

Cause 9*li.* 6*s.* 8*d.* to be levied from the goods of Bartholomew Tirel, clerk.

Witness, J. de Sadyngton, 20 Jan., in the 20th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused 20*s* [to be made] from the goods of Bartholomew Tirel, clerk, sequestrated by us, which we send you. We could not find other goods.

1554. Writ to Bishop Ralph. Fol 246

Know that Richard de Acton, before our justices at Westminster, recovered his presentation to the church of Exeford against Philip de Drockesford. Admit a fit parson at the presentation of the said Philip.

Witness, J. de Stonore, at Westminster, 24th May, in the 20th year of our reign.

1555. Writ [to Bishop Ralph.]

Because Bartholomew Tirel is a clerk and prebendary in the cathedral church of Wells, not having a lay fee; cause the said Bartholomew to come before the barons of our Exchequer on the octaves of St. John the Baptist to answer to us, together with John de Budeneweie and Roger, late chaplain of Hugh Tirel, late sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, for certain goods and chattels to the value of *76li. 17s.* which were of the said Hugh in the manor of Brancroft, co. Salop, on the day he died.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 8 May, in the 20th year of our reign.

Return. We received this writ so late we could not execute.

1556. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

Cause William Laghelegh, parson of the church of Lutton, clerk, to come before our justices to answer to Master Thomas de Haselsshawe of a plea that he render account for the time he was receiver of his money.

Witness, J. de Stonore, 20 May, in the 20th year of our reign,

Return. We have caused William de Laghele, clerk, to be cited.

1557. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

Because John Giffarde is beneficed in your diocese, having no lay fee, as testified by our sheriff of Northampton; cause 44*li.* 10*s.*, to be levied from the goods of the said John in your diocese, which he owes us for the part pertaining to him of the common fine of 4,000 marks by which the community of the county of Northampton made a fine with us before Robert Parnynk and his associates, justices assigned to hear and determine trespasses, &c., in the 16th year.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 30 June, in the 20th year of our reign.

This writ was not returned by the advice of Master Stephen Trippe.

1558. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

Cause William de Lavyngton, subdean of Welles, to come before our justices to answer to John de Strengeston, parson of the church of Leghe, of a plea that he render to him 40*li.*

Witness, R. Hillari, at Westminster, 8 July, in the 20th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused William de Lav[yngton] to come.

1559. Writ [to Bishop Ralph,] as No. 1555.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 28 June, in the 20th year of our reign.

Non fuerat retornatum.

1560. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

Cause 9*li.* 6*s.* 8*d.* to be made from the goods of Bartholomew Tirel, clerk.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 3 July, in the 20th year of our reign.

Non fuerat retornatum.

1561. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

Cause 10*li.* to be made from the goods of Thomas de Haselshage, parson of Chiw, to render to the prior of Bath, (as on p. 416.)

Witness, J. de Stonore, 17 Oct., in the 20th year of our reign.

Return. We caused the goods of Thomas de Haselshagh to the value of 2 marks to be put up to sale, and, because we did not find purchasers, we caused the same to be sequestrated. More goods cannot be found.

1562. Writ to Bishop Ralph, as No. 1555.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 23 Nov., in the 20th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused Bartholomew Tirel to be cited.

1563. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

Cause 9*li.* 6*s.* 8*d.* to be made from the goods of Bartholomew Tirel.

Witness, R. de Sadyngton, 11 Nov., in the 20th year of our reign.

Return. We put up goods of Bartholomew Tirel to the value of 20*s.* to sale, and did not find purchasers.

1564. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

Cause Nicholas de Kyngeston, parson of the church of Compton Martyn, to come before our justices to answer to Master John de Pillande of a plea that he render to him 40*s.*

Witness, J. de Stonore, 18 Oct., in the 20th year of our reign.

Return. We have caused Nicholas de Kyngeston to be cited.

1565. Writ [to Bishop Ralph].

We return you special thanks for the subsidy of the biennial tenth which you and the other prelates and clergy granted us at the church of St. Paul, London. But, because the terms of payment are so far off, we ask you that, considering the urgent necessity and danger in which we and our faithful men assisting us in the parts beyond the seas are placed, you will convoke the clergy of your diocese, and induce the clergy that the terms be shortened.

Witness Lionel, our dearest son, keeper of England, at Eltham 18 Dec., in the 20th year of our reign. Fol. 247.

Excellentissimo. Et licet ad solvendam decimam biennialem vobis in conuocacione prelatorum et cleri Cantauriensis provincie in ecclesia sancti Pauli London' ultimo concessam certi fuissant termini ad tunc assignati, Nos tamen et clerus nostre diocesis postea terminos abbreviare volentes unanimiter concessimus ad solvendum decimam predictam pro primo anno in festis Nativitatis sancti Johannis Baptiste et sancti Michaelis proximo futuris per equales porciones, et pro secundo anno in festis Nativitatis sancti Johannis et sancti Michaelis proximo extunc sequentibus per equales porciones. Super quibus vestram regiam excellenciam in Cancellaria vestra certificamus presencium cum tenore.

Datum apud Wyvel [scomb], apud xv. die Marcii anno Domini m° ccc^mo xlvj^to.

1566. Memorandum quod die Lune proximo post festum Purificationis Beate Marie comparuit clerus Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis coram S. Trippe commissario in ecclesia beate Marie Magdalene Tantonie et exposito per eundem S. negocio supradicto idem clerus adtunc abbreviacioni terminorum consentire recusarunt. Quibus idem S. prefixit secundum diem juridicum post festum sancti Gregorii in eodem loco ad tunc ulterius tractandum super dicto negocio et ad faciendum quod erit justum.

1567. The King to Bishop Ralph.

We thank you much for the tenths granted in aid of our war at the last convocation. Because the payments are far off, we pray you to cause the clergy of your diocese to assemble and to show them the great necessity.

Under our Privy Seal, at Calais, 28 Dec., in the 20th year of our reign.

1568. Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Anglie et Francie et Dominus Hibernie venerabili in Christo patri Radulpho eadem gratia Bathoniensi et Wellensi Episcopo. Propter quedam ardua negocia statum et defensionem regni nostri Anglie ac expedicionem guerrarum nostrarum summe concernencia, vobis in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tenemini firmiter injungendo mandamus, quatinus omnibus aliis pretermissis sitis apud Westmon-

asterium tercio die Marcii proximo futuro ibidem cum prelatis et ceteris magnatibus ac aliis de consilio nostro super negociis antedictis tractaturi vestrumque consilium impensuri. Et hoc sicut nos et honorem nostrum ac celerem expedicionem guerrarum predictarum diligitis nullo modo omittatis.

Teste Leonello filio nostro karissimo, Custode Anglie apud Redynge decimo octavo die Februarii anno regni nostri Anglia vicesimo primo regni vero nostri Francie octavo.

1569. Writ to Bishop Ralph.

Wishing for certain causes to be certified of the true tax of all churches, chapels and other benefices, which the prior and brethren of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem hold in England, to their proper uses as well as the benefices which pertain to them by reason of the said hospital as of the others which the Knights Templars held. We command you that, the registers as well of your time as of your predecessors having been searched, you certify us in our Chancery of what shall happen to be found.

Witness Lionel, our dearest son, at Reading, 26 Feb., in the 21st year of our reign.

Certificate. The prior and brethren of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England hold the parish church of the Temple, Bristol, which consists in 100*s.* to be taken from the vicar of the place. The churches of Kynemersdon, Durston, Northpederton, Halse and Brompfelde which are not taxed. They also take 18*s.* of an annual pension from the church of Hethfelde, 2*s.* of an annual pension from the church of Netherstoweie.

1570. Kal., Jan., A. D. 1340, at Woky. Fol. 248

The lord conferred on Sir John de Sutton, priest, a canonry in his church of Wells and the prebend of Combe tercia.

1571. Kal., Jan., A. D. above.

The lord, at Woky, instituted John Holme, priest, to the vicarage of Aisshulle, vacant by the resignation of Thomas de Burgh, by reason of exchange for the vicarage of Giddynge Magna, diocese of Lincoln.

Same day and place.

The lord, by authority of the bishop of Lincoln, admitted Thomas de Burgh to the vicarage of Giddynge Magna, diocese of Lincoln, vacant by the resignation of John Holme, by reason of exchange for the vicarage of Aisshulle, at the presentation of the prior and convent of Huntingdon.

1572. Kal. Jan.., A. D. above, at Wells. The lord instituted James Benford, of Stanlake, acolyte, to the parish church of Jerlington, at the presentation of the lord William de Monte Acuto, earl of Salisbury.

1573. iij Kal., Jan., A.D. above, at Wells, The lord admitted Thomas Parl, priest, to the church of Cruketmalerbe, vacant by the resignation of Robert Broke, the last rector, by reason of exchange for the church of All Saints, Hastings, diocese of Chichester, at the presentation of Sir Thomas de Cortenay, knight.

Same day and place.

The lord instituted the said Robert Brok, priest, to the church of All Saints abovesaid, by reason of the said exchange, at the presentation of the King, by authority of Robert, Bishop of Chichester.

1574. Same day and place.

The lord admitted Walter de Retford, priest, to the parish church of Whitestaunton, vacant by the resignation of Roger de Bokhampton, the last rector, by reason of exchange for the vicarage of Kyngesbury, at the presentation of Roger de Staunton, lord of Whitestanton.

Same day and place.

The lord instituted the same Roger to the vicarage of Kyngesbury, by reason of the said exchange, at the presentation of Simon de Bristol chancellor of Wells.

1575. Epiphany, A.D. 1340. William, called le Carpenter, admitted at Woky to the church of Thornefagon at the presentation of Edmund de Clyuedon, knight, custodee of the body, lands and tenements of William Coffyn.

1576. Bernard Sistre, archdeacon of Canterbury, commissary

appointed by the cardinals, to Bishop Ralph, collector of the procurations for Sir Peter, titular of St. Praxedis, cardinal priest, and Sir Bertrand, titular of St. Mary in Aquiro, cardinal deacon, nuncios of the Apostolic see.

Know that we have received the letters patent of the said two cardinals in these words. Peter, titular of St. Praxedis, cardinal priest, and Bertrand, titular of St. Mary in Aquiro, cardinal deacon, to the archbishop of Canterbury and Master Bernard Sistre. We commit to you and each of you, power to cause sentences to be laid in whatsoever processes concerning procurations due to us in England, &c. Tornati, 3 Feb., A.D. 1340.

Therefore we pray you that you cause all sums of money in your possession to be assigned to the proctors of the said cardinals in the city of London, at the instant feast of the Purification.

London, 18 Dec., A.D. 1340.

1577. John, archbishop of Canterbury, to Bishop Ralph.

We exhort your brotherhood that you compel the subcollectors to pay whatever shall remain in their hands of the procurations before the feast of the Purification to the proctor and nuncios of the cardinals.

Charyngge, iii Kal., Dec., A.D. 1340.

1578. iii Id., Jan., A.D., above, at Blakeford. Fol. 249.

The lord granted to Roger de Clobiry, rector of Combeflory, holding the first tonsure, letters dimissory to all minor and holy orders.

1579. Id., Jan., A.D. above.

The lord granted letters dimissory for Master Reginald de Bugewelle, rector of Wydecombe, subdeacon, to all holy orders, and that he can stay in the schools.

1580. Ralph, bishop of London, to Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells.

We have received the letters of John, archbishop of Canterbury to Ralph, bishop of London.

Sacrosancta ecclesia que libera debet esse, variis exactionibus indebite et angariis infestis opprimitur hiis diebus, cujus bona,

ad que laica manus non deberet extendi, pro libito diripiuntur in predam, Clerusque nostre Cantuariensis provincie vexatur injuste ac proboso contemptu nequitur conculcatur . . . quasdam excommunicacionum sententias a sanctis patribus et predecessoribus nostris in subscriptis casibus adversus delinquentes hactenus promulgatas, per denunciaciones publicas in locis eminentibus faciendas, per nos et ceteros confratres, ac suffraganeos nostros, palam duximus in omnibus intimare . . . Datum Cantuar'. ij. Kalend., Januarii, anno Domini millesimo cccmo xlo, et noster translationis septimo.

Tenor vero hujusmodi articulorum talis est. In Dei nomine Amen. Nos, Johannes permissione divina Cantuar' Archiepiscopus tocius Anglie primas et apostolice sedis legatus, omnes et singulos qui ecclesias suo jure priuare, vel per maliciam infringere seu turbare presument, &c. Nos vero mandatum nostrum prescriptum, et omnia contenta in eo tam per vos quam per ceteros suffraganeos nostros, et Officialem nostrum Lincolnie in vestra London' ecclesia et suis ecclesiis cathedralibus quatenus ad vos et eos attinet distincte et aperte lingua materna mandamus in uirtute sancta obediencie solempniter publicari.

Datum die, anno et loco predictis.

By authority of which letters we order you, that you publish the said articles.

Oresete, 3 Jan., A.D. above, and the first of our consecration.

1581. xv Kal., Feb., A.D. 1340.

Licence for John de Farman, rector of Bekynton, to absent himself in the service of Sir John de Beauchaump, knight, till Mich. next.

1582. Condempnacio rectoris de Lidiard Sancti Laurencii.

Act before us, John de Carleton, official of the bishop of Bath and Wells, in the chapel within the manor of the bishop at Blakeford, xiv Kal., Feb., A.D. 1340, Sir John de Rysyngdon rector of Jeuele, and Sir Walter, rector of Lidiard St. Lawrence, appearing before us, the said Walter confessed that he was bound to the said Sir John in 20 marks.

We condemn him in the said sum under pain of greater excommunication.

Present. Master John de Middelton, rector of Bloedon, and Sir Nicholas, rector of Cheleworth.

1583. Ralph, bishop of London, to Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, dated at Hadham, 22 Nov., A.D. 1340, reciting the letters of Pope Benedict to the archbishop of Canterbury, to pray for peace between France and England, and exhorting him to perform the premises. Fol. 251.

The Pope's letter commences :—

Benedictus episcopus servus servorum Dei venerabilibus fratribus archiepiscopo Cantuar', ejusque suffraganeis salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Salutaribus discipulorum nostri salvatoris informamur exemplis, ut irruentibus in pelago mundi hujus fluctuum et tempestatum turbinibus ad divinum auxilium devotis excitantes, dominum precibus recurramus. Sane notitie vestre non est incognitum qualiter invidia hostis antiqui malorum omnium incentoris, qui tranquillitatis humane nitens amaricare delictas ibi sua venena nequicie latius studet diffundere, ubi se amplius estimat obfuturum. Dudum carissimos in Christo filios nostros Philippum Francia et Edwardum Anglie Reges illustres adeo dure ad iracundiam rancores et odia concitauit. Ends.

Quocirca fraternitati vestre per apostolica scripta mandamus quatinus pro hujusmodi pacis et unitatis concordia dono celestis gracie concedenda, devotas ad Deum tam processionaliter quam alias preces effundere, ac per clerum et populos in vestris civitatibus et diocesibus constitutos effundi facere studeatis.

Datum Avinion, viij Kalen., Decembris, pontificatus nostri anno sexto.

1584. The bishop's official to Sir Matthew de Vallencenis, archdeacon of Bath.

We allow you to exercise, by yourself or your ministers, the jurisdiction of archdeacon, in the archdeaconry of Bath, in the manner accustomed, until the bishop shall think fit to do something else in that behalf, notwithstanding any our inhibition made before.

Blakeford, xviii Kal., Feb., A.D. 1340.

1585. v Kal., Feb., in the year above, at Blakeford. The lord instituted Thomas de More, chaplain, to the vicarage of

Estharpetre, at the presentation of Richard de Thistelden, treasurer of Wells, and prebendary of Estharpetre. He owes an entire fee.

1586. The dean of St. Mary de Arcubus, commissary general of the official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

Whereas we, lawfully proceeding in the matter of appeal between Master Robert Hereward, archdeacon of Taunton, and prebendary of Milverton, the party appealing, and you the party appealed, dismiss you, because the party appealing did not prove his appeal.

London, ix Kal., Feb., A.D. above.

1587. 6 Feb., A.D. above at Blakeford. The lord admitted John de Navenby, priest, to the perpetual vicarage of Paulet, belonging to the presentation of the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, near Bristol, by reason of exchange for the vicarage of Pipmynstre.

Fol. 252. Same day and place. The lord admitted John Stede, priest, to the perpetual vicarage of Pipmynstre, belonging to the presentation of the prior and convent of Taunton by reason of exchange for the vicarage of Paulet.

1588. Letter from the archbishop of Canterbury against those who oppress the church.

Dated at Canterbury, 30 Jan.

Printed in Wilkins, vol. ii, p. 660 from Exeter Register Grandison, A. f. 236, but there is a slight variation in the wording.

1589. Mandate of the archbishop of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph, against those who maliciously exact the tenth of ecclesiastical goods from the clergy of the province of Canterbury and the ninths granted in the Parliament at Westminster in Lent last.

Canterbury, iv Kal., Feb., A.D. 1340.

Printed in "Wilkins' Concilia," vol. ii, p. 659, from Exeter Register Grandison, A. fol. 235, 236.

1590. Acts against the archdeacon of Bath. Fol. 253.

Act before us the official of the bishop of Bath and Wells, in the bishop's manor of Blakeford, 17 Jan., A.D. 1340. Sir Matthew de Valencenis, archdeacon of Bath, personally appeared before us, and confessed the crime of incontinency with Matilda Vakerel. For the crime of incontinency and all the offences and contempts we have enjoined that he abstain from all exercise of the jurisdiction of archdeacon for a year. And further we have mulcted the said Sir Matthew in 100 marks sterling to be paid to the fabric of the cathedral church of Wells. Present. Master John de Middelton, rector of Bloedon, Walter de Walcote, and John de Carleton, *laicus.* And present William Cammel, public notary.

[In the margin] 2 July, anno, &c. [13]41. We J. de Midd[leton], commissary, warn you, Matthew de Valencenis that you satisfy the 100 marks within written to S. Tripp, proctor of the dean and chapter of Wells, within 10 days.

Present. Master Nicholos de Clebiry and Robert atte Hulle, clerks, and William Cammel, public notary.

Act at Chyw, in the church, Matthew answered that he will pay the money.

Afterwards, 17 July in the year aforesaid, Master Stephen Tripp, proctor of the dean and chapter of Wells, before Master John de Midd[leton], commissary of the said father, gave his credit, that the said chapter is not satisfied for the said condemnation. The archdeacon excommunicated. Present. William Lawela, John de Grendon, and John de Mondedorte, priests, and Simon Fareweye.

1591. 17 Feb., A.D. above at Evercrich. The lord admitted Master Simon de Fareweye, priest, to the church of Chilton Trinity, together with the chapel of Icchestoke depending on the same church, belonging to the presentation of the master and brethren of the Hospital of St. John of Bruggewalteri.

1592. Bishop Ralph to John, rector of Cruketthomas.

We grant you a faculty to hear confessions of our subjects.

Evercrich, xiij Kal., March, A.D. 1340, and the 12th of our consecration.

Like commissions to Robert, vicar of Cheddre, Sir John, rector of Wrytlyngton, brother Richard Dunsterre, canon of Brywton, Robert, vicar of Jeuele, Sir John, vicar of Hywysh, the rector of Cruketthomas, John, vicar of Brugg[water], Richard vicar of Kyngeston, Sir Richard, rector of Lokcombe, John vicar of the Temple, Sir R. de Chyppenham, John, vicar of Stalles, and William the subprior, Master John de Middelton, rector of Templecombe, and Hugh de Alresford.

1593. Bishop Ralph to the dean, precentor, and subdean of Wells.

We commit our offices to you and each of you to publicly hear penitents of our diocese on Ash Wednesday next.

Evercrich, xiij Kal., March, A.D. above.

1594. The official of the court of Canterbury to Bishop Ralph.

We have received the complaint of Sir Richard de Rokebeare, perpetual vicar of Kyngeston near Taunton, that you ordered him to be excommunicated, robbed him of his said vicarage, and caused him to be kept in prison. We order you that within the space of 15 days you cause fulness of justice to be done to the party of the said Sir Richard.

London, viij Kal., Feb., A.D. 1340.

Received ix Kal., March.

Fol. 254. 1595. Letter from Adam, bishop of Winchester, Robert, bishop of Salisbury, John, bishop of Exeter, Ralph, bishop of Bath and Wells, and Simon, bishop of Ely, to the pope.

Beatissime pater quia scimus quod zelus domus Dei comedit vos, si piam devocionem sublimium personarum ut accepte Dei religionis propagentur augmenta sua studia convertencium humilium precum instancia promovemus. Hoc gratum esse confidimus apostolice sanctitati. Eapropter supplicacionem nobilis et potentis viri domini Willelmi de Monte Acuto Comitis Sarum et Mareschalli Anglie qui in manerio suo de Bustlesham Sarum diocesis habita super hoc licencia regia et auctoritate diocesana quemdam prioratum Canonicorum regularium opere sumptuoso construxit et tam de propriis redditibus quam aliunde quesitis sufficienter dotauit prout in dicta supplicacione sacris vestris manibus porrigenda plenius continetur, apostolice beatitudini

humili et votivo recomendamus affectu divinam clemenciam plena cordium intencione suppliciter exorantes.

1596. Bishop Ralph to the dean of Ivelcestre.

The priory of Montacute belonging to the disposition of the abbot of Cluny is known to be vacant. Nevertheless, the same abbot has neglected to confer the said priory on anyone so that the power of collating has devolved on us. Proclaim that if there be any who is interested that they appear before us or our commissary in the cathedral church of Wells, on the next judicial day after Sunday.

Wyvelescombe, xv Kal., March, A.D. 1340.

1597. Letter to the archbishop.

Reuerentissime pater et domine. Dominacionem vestram novimus nunc [*non*?] latere, quomodo Justiciarii rper dominum nostrum regem tenore mirabili et contra modum solitum deputati ad facta horrenda contra ministros ecclesie in manifestam illusionem jurisdictionis ecclesiastice molliuntur procedere, saltem mittentes in messem perperam alienam et nisi principiis festino obvietur remedio, verisimiliter est timendum quod hujusmodi presumpcionis auctores majorem imposterum sument audaciam mirabiliora contra Deum et ecclesiam attemptandi de injuriis et suis iniquitatibus gloriantes et jam accensa scintilla, in vim transire videbitur destructivam. Quid ergo vestra commendanda dominacio in premissis faciendum iudicauerit, dignemini si libeat per vestras literas communicare nobiscum, ut sic unito consilio dictis presumptoribus et ipsorum presumpcionibus forcius sub alis vestris resistere valeamus, cum nisi error cui non resistitur approbatus a pluribus reputetur, non expedit nostro judicio ista connuentibus oculis et simulato silencio pertransire.

Reuerendam vestram personam diu conseruat altissimus, ad defencionem ecclesiastice libertatis. Scriptum.

1598. Commission against the justices of our lord the King.

Bishop Ralph to John, perpetual vicar of Stalles.

Ad monendum et eciam inhibendum nostris et auctoritate tam in genera quam in specie, ne quis vel qui, quicquam in prejudicium nostre jurisdictionis ecclesiastice presumat, vel presumant

quomodolibet attemptare, tuisque monicionibus hujusmodi, ac quoscumque nostros clericos in casu, jure, vel consuetudine non permisso attachiantes, arrestantes, seu incarcerantes, attachiare, arrestare, vel incarcerare mandantes, seu hujusmodi attachiacioni, arrestacioni, vel incarceracioni prebentes consilium vel auxilium, per quascumque censuras ecclesiasticas canonice compescendum, quecumque etiam mandata superiorum nostrorum nobis directa, ac quascumque sententias excommunicacionis a sanctis patribus, seu sacrorum canonum institucionibus promulgatis similiter publicandum diebus et locis quibus videris expedire, tibi tenore presencium committimus vices nostras.

Datum apud Wyvelescombe, &c.

1599. xi Kal., Ap., A.D. [above]. Letters dimissory for William Hirreys, of Bath, acolyte, to all holy orders, at the instance of Henry Lescrop.

1600. Mandate of the lord archbishop to Bishop Ralph, the substance of which is printed in Wilkins, vol. ii, p. 670.

Commencing. Purioris nitore luminis inter claras fidei catholice cultorum laudes sidus irradiat, dum secularis potestas
Fol. 255. consideracione precellenti Christi legatis inter alios quibus in presentis vite stadio dominatur.

Continuing. Cordis siquidem a amaritudine dolenter referimus quod invidie hostis versuti callida machinacio, sic mentis quorundam oculos execauit, quod libello detestabili et famoso contra nos concepto, fictis convitiis et veritati contrariis manifeste, nostram opinionem literis regiis que non primitus ex ipsius domini nostri regis ut convincimur sed quorundam emulorum nostrorum eidem hiis diebus assistencium pharetra processerunt in variis regni partibus publicandis maliciose suggillare presument, lese majestatis et aliorum horrendorum criminum reos nos existere asserentes.

Ending. Alioquin si dictum mandatum regium in vestra diocesi non dum fuerit publicatum, supersedeatis circa execucionem ejusdem et supercederi a vestris subditis faciatis omnino. . . . Datum Cantuar' sexto Id. Marcii anno Domini millesimo cccmo quadragesimo et nostre translationis octavo.

1695